

## GCC ministers welcome ACC

**RIVADH (R)** — Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) foreign ministers meeting in Riyadh have welcomed the formation of two new Arab groupings. The ministerial meeting is the first since the formation of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) linking Egypt, Iraq, North Yemen and Jordan; and the Arab Maghreb Union which links Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Mauritania. Bahrain's foreign minister, Sheikh Mohammad bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, current chairman of the foreign ministers' committee, said in his opening statement: "These two unions have proved the success of cooperation between the Arab countries and we hope that they will bring progress to our nations." Sheikh Mohammad also spoke about the progress of the GCC since its formation in 1980. "The GCC countries have proven once again their unity in cooperation and the need to achieve more social and cultural progress."

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## King voices satisfaction with British stand, efforts for peace

**AMMAN (Petra)** — His Majesty King Hussein Monday voiced satisfaction with the British government's understanding of the situation in the Middle East region and the Arab-Israeli conflict and London's serious endeavours designed to convene an interna-

tional Middle East peace conference which should be attended by all concerned parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

The King was speaking at a meeting held at the Al Nadwa Palace with visiting British Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave who arrived earlier in the day from the occupied territories.

The King briefed the visiting minister on Jordan's position with regard to the recent developments in the Middle East and the ongoing moves at the international level to convene the proposed peace conference.

Waldegrave conveyed to the King greetings from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and explained the nature of his current Middle East tour, his impressions about the situation in the region and the conditions of the Arab people in the occupied territories.

The audience was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn

Shaker, the King's political advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, the King's special advisor Amer Khammash, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem and British Ambassador to Jordan Anthony Reeve as well as delegation accompanying Waldegrave.

Waldegrave was earlier received by the prime minister and foreign minister. Upon his arrival here from the occupied West Bank, Waldegrave commended King Hussein's efforts to solve the Middle East question and said that steps taken by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat had favourably contributed towards the establishment of a just peace in the Middle East.

Israel should take positive steps in response to those taken by the Arab side for convening of an international peace conference

under U.N. auspices, Waldegrave said. He said his country was exerting strenuous efforts to encourage Israel to respond to the peace efforts.

In Jordan, Waldegrave said, he will discuss the general situation in the region and steps to be taken to convene the proposed peace conference. Jordan and Britain, he added, hold identical views on the need to convene the conference to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The European Community (EC) states in general, Waldegrave said, and Britain in particular are taking special interest in resolving the conflict and are maintaining intense contacts with the concerned parties including the PLO.

Anyone visiting the occupied territories, he said, will come to the conclusion that the present situation there cannot continue

and Israel cannot go on suppressing the national aspirations of the Palestinian people.

Waldegrave described the situation in the occupied territories as marked by oppression and suppression. He referred to Thatcher's statement following a visit to the occupied areas in 1986. "The situation there is temporary and should end," he said.

"It is clearer than ever before that the situation resulting from the Israeli occupation should end," he added.

He said the Palestinian people's conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip were very bad and that he was impressed by the Gaza people's self-restraint and their feeling of national pride.

The director of protocol at the Foreign Ministry and the British ambassador to Jordan were at the airport to welcome the British minister.



His Majesty King Hussein Monday confers with British Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave in a meeting attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan (photo by Yusef Al 'Allan)



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Monday holds talks with British Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave (Petra photo)

## Waldegrave: Britain seeks peace in Mideast through compromise

By Rania Atalla with agency dispatches

**AMMAN** — Britain is "working hard" to bring peace to the Middle East by encouraging dialogue among parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict, identifying areas of common ground among them and urging the need for compromise, British Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave said Monday.

In an address to members of the Jordan-British Society Monday evening, Waldegrave said Britain's role in bringing peace to the area did not entail forcing any solution on parties involved in the conflict.

"It is not our task to impose the shape of any solution (on parties involved in the conflict), nor could we. For a settlement to endure, it must be freely negotiated by all those directly concerned," said Waldegrave who arrived here earlier in the day

from the occupied territories.

Waldegrave said Britain has been urging the parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict for compromise, calling for courage to move away from traditional and "cliche-ridden" positions.

"We believe the five permanent members (of the U.N. Security Council) have a particular role to play," he said adding that Britain has continued its contacts with the U.S., the European Community and was working through the Security Council for peace in the area.

He said Britain and its European Community partners were urging the U.S. to put the Middle East higher on its list of foreign policy priorities.

Waldegrave, who spent five days in the occupied West Bank and Gaza and Israel, said his visit had reinforced his belief that occupation "cannot be a solution" to the region's problem. "My visit to Nablus under cur-

few brought home to me forcibly that the territories are indeed under complete and thorough military occupation," he said.

The 15-month-old Palestinian uprising, he said, has given back to the Palestinians their dignity and had led the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to adopt a moderate position, a matter which, he noted, Britain had been urging it to do for years.

Waldegrave said the PLO's shift in policy was not a tactical move to gain temporary advantage, but a "strategic decision" reflecting a realisation amongst Palestinians that negotiations were "the only practical way of achieving the long-desired goal of Palestinian self-determination."

Decisions adopted by the Palestine National Council Nov. 15 as well as PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's statement at the Special General Assembly session in Geneva late last year constitute a "turning point" and thus deserve

a "positive response from Israel," Waldegrave said.

Waldegrave described as "bizarre" Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's view that the occupied territories were "liberated" territories belonging to Israel.

"To term the territories as 'liberated,' as Mr. Shamir did when I was there, is simply bizarre, to use a British understatement," he said.

Last month, Waldegrave became the first British minister to meet with Arafat, signalling a shift in Britain's policy in the Middle East. The minister, who met the PLO leader in Tunis, said Monday he had been struck by the "practical and careful approach" adopted by the PLO in preparation for an international peace conference.

The minister said the PLO's willingness to assume a role of

(Continued on page 2)

## Jordan honours Iraqi martyrs

**AMMAN (J.T.)** — A Royal Decree has been issued granting Jordan's Al Kawthar Medal of the First Order and the Military Merit Medal to the martyrs of the Iraqi Army who fell in defence of the eastern flank of the Arab World in the face of Iranian aggression.

His Majesty King Hussein decorated the Martyr's Monument in Iraq with these two medals in February.

## 7 murder cases quickly solved; PSD salutes efficient officers

**AMMAN (Petra)** — The Public Security Department (PSD) disclosed Monday that police and security services solved seven murders committed in the Kingdom between Dec. 11, 1988, and Jan. 7, 1989. The PSD paid tribute to the police officers who took part in intense work that led to the discovery of the criminals.

The announcement was made by PSD Director General Abdul Hadi Al Majali at a meeting which was called to disclose details about the murders and to honour officers who participated in solving the cases.

Each of the murders took only a matter of five days to be solved

and to bring the criminals to justice, Majali said.

He said the excellent work of the police force reflects the dedication of its members and the sound and scientific techniques they apply.

Honouring the police officers is honouring the whole police force which continues to pursue efforts for protecting the society, Majali said.

Addressing the meeting was Major General Yusef Gharaiheb, director of the Amman Police Department, who said that six of the seven crimes were committed within his department's jurisdiction and the seventh was carried out in Madaba district.

All the victims in the Amman area were below 20 years of age and the six murder took place at night, Gharaiheb said. He said that all the bodies except one in the seven murders were dumped in public places or main roads and five were committed in cold blood. But, he added, there was no relation whatsoever between any of the crimes which took place within 25 days.

The PSD director distributed awards to the officers who worked hard to solve the murders.

contending that they were centres of violent anti-Israeli demonstrations. Mahdi Abdul Hadi, who heads an Arab Jerusalem foreign policy think-tank, said Palestinian children of primary school age were learning mathematics "with the numbers of deportees and martyrs and demolished houses."

Education is a matter of survival to Palestinians. We are concerned over the severe effect of the closures on students in the lower grades," he said.

All five Palestinian universities in the occupied territories have been closed for more than a year. In the Gaza Strip, eight out of 250 schools are closed indefinitely.

The 1.7 million Palestinian residents of the occupied areas staged a general strike Monday in protest at the school closures.

In their latest communique, the

## 3 Palestinians martyred amid continuing strikes

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies)** — Israeli soldiers fatally shot two Palestinians Monday and wounded 10 others in sporadic clashes Monday with stone-throwing protesters during a general strike in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, news reports said.

It was the biggest daily death toll in nearly a month in the 15-month Palestinian uprising. A Palestinian prisoner also died in a Gaza prison Monday and police were investigating the circumstances, army radio reported.

Arab community leaders meanwhile expressed concern at the effect of the extended closure of schools in the occupied territories on more than 300,000 Palestinian children.

Israeli military officials have kept 1,200 West Bank schools closed during most of the uprising

underground leaders of the revolt said: "March 6 will be a strike day in protest against the policy of making our people ignorant and the continuing closure of our educational institutions."

An attorney at Al Haq, a Palestinian human rights organisation, told Reuters: "We believe the closure of schools is illegal, is a form of collective punishment and is most detrimental."

Israel freed 130 Palestinian prisoners Monday but violence raged in the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

The army said it freed the inmates from Ketzioz prison camp in Israel to mark the Isra' Wal Mi'raj.

Troops killed Ahmad Ramadan Al Azzami, 19, when they opened fire at stone-throwers

(Continued on page 2)

## Arafat offers to revive truce

**KUWAIT (Agencies)** — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has offered to revive a 1981 ceasefire accord with the Israelis in South Lebanon and says he is ready to visit if Arab governments approve, newspapers reported Monday.

But he said reviving that short-lived ceasefire, mediated by the U.N. peacekeeping force in South Lebanon, "should only take place according to our conditions."

In an interview with editors of several Kuwaiti dailies, he stressed that the PLO would agree to a truce if Israel "stops its raids in the region, ends its expulsion of Palestinians and stops using arms against the uprising" in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He said that Israel was negotiating with the PLO through the United Nations for a halt to guerrilla operations from South Lebanon.

Arafat's offer came amid Israeli claims that resistance attacks launched against Israel's self-designated "security zone" in South Lebanon violated the renunciation of terrorism Arafat made last December, when he also recognised Israel.

The Israelis regularly retaliate for the cross-border raids with air strikes on Palestinian bases and ground assaults from the "security zone."

Arafat has repeatedly said that guerrilla attacks on military targets in Israel and the occupied territories do not constitute terrorism.

He told a news conference in Abu Dhabi last Friday that the PLO adhered to the 1981 ceasefire.

Arafat said the Israeli army invaded Lebanon in June 1982, ostensibly to crush the PLO, only after an abortive assassination attempt against Shimon Peret, Israel's ambassador in London, by members of renegade Palestinian leader Abu Nidal's extremist faction.

(Continued on page 2)

## Mahdi works on fifth government in three years

**KHARTOUM (R)** — Sudan's prime minister, forced by the army to give priority to ending a civil war, met rival politicians Monday to try to form his fifth government in nearly three years.

After a two-week crisis sparked by generals angry at lack of backing in their battle against southern rebels, Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi talked to the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) leader whose peace pact with rebels helped shatter his last coalition.

State Radio Omdurman said Mahdi met Mohammad Osman Al Mirghani, whose DUP is the country's second largest after the prime minister's Umma.

Mirghani late last year reached a pact with the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) rebels on the ending of the civil war which caused tens of thousands of

deaths in the south since its outbreak in 1983.

Parliament rejected the accord which called for a freeze on the introduction of strict Sharia law before a national constitutional conference was held. The DUP quit the coalition in protest.

The radio said Monday Mahdi also sent top aides to talk to the militant National Islamic Front (NIF), which voted with Umma against the pact.

The NIF is the most vocal supporter of the introduction of Sharia.

Sharia is anathema to the rebel SPLA and has been at the centre of the rebellion in the south.

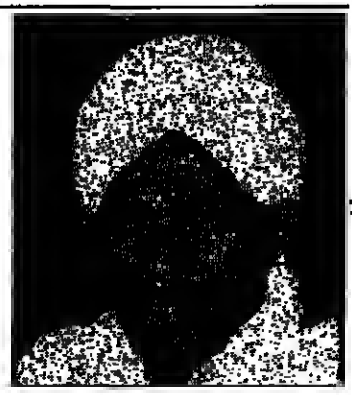
The NIF, which effectively demands a military solution to the war in the south, was widely expected to be excluded from the new government because it did

not sign a charter binding nearly 40 parties and trade unions to the peace pact.

The Islamic militants have more than 50 of parliament's 301 seats, while Umma and the DUP have 103 and 63 respectively. NIF leader Foreign Minister Hassan Al Tourabi has made introduction of Sharia a condition of his party's inclusion in a new coalition, according to Khartoum press reports.

Tourabi maintains that Sharia would not apply to south Sudan but proposes that the estimated 2.5 million southerners living in the north should be subject to it. Many of the southerners fled to the north to escape famine and the war.

On Sunday, when Mahdi announced he would stay on in office after having threatened to



Sadeq Al Mahdi

resign over the army ultimatum, he told a news conference both the NIF and the trade unions would be in the new government. He added, however, that their level of representation had yet to be decided.

The army ultimatum last month demanded Mahdi form a broad government, spend more on defence and pursue what they called a more balanced foreign policy.

## Iranian deadline to Britain expires today

**NICOSIA (Agencies)** — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi swung behind Iran's order to kill British author Salman Rushdie on the eve of an apparently inevitable break in Tehran's ties with Britain.

The Iranian news agency IRNA said Monday that Qadhafi supported the death decree which one Palestinian group vowed late Sunday would be carried out by its guerrillas.

In a north Tehran hall, chanting, sobbing Iranians condemned Rushdie for his novel "The Satanic Verses" as Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini appeared on the balcony.

"You are the idol breaker, Khomeini," the first-waving faithful chanted to the spiritual leader who ordered Muslims Feb. 14 to kill Rushdie for blasphemy, nutting Western governments.

Western condemnation led by Britain provoked Tehran into setting a deadline of March 7 for London to recant and denounce Rushdie or have their diplomatic

ties broken. IRNA said Monday there was no indication that statements from British leaders had gone far enough to meet Iran's demands and a complete rift appeared imminent.

The agency said a Swedish diplomat who is looking after Britain's interests returned to the Iranian capital and had talks with Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Larjani Monday over the Rushdie crisis.

The diplomat also had talks with the British Foreign Office after being recalled for consultation following the recall by European Community (EC) countries of their senior diplomats from Tehran.

Larjani told the envoy: "The only solution to this crisis in the West is respect for Muslims and their belief."

Rushdie, 41, now in hiding under guard in Britain, was born into a Muslim family in Bombay. IRNA said Qadhafi told the head of Iran's parliamentary fore-

ign committee, religious judge Sadeq Khalkhali, Sunday that Islam does not forgive apostasy — renouncing the faith.

In Israel, where 14 per cent of the population is Muslim, chief rabbi Avraham Shapira urged the book be banned to avoid offence. He also criticised Khomeini's death order saying it was not up to any man to impose such a sentence. "It is in the hands of heaven."

Khomeini has said Rushdie has no chance of escaping death and hell.

A spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), whose leader Ahmad Jibril pledged in a statement Sunday night to comply with Khomeini's decree, said the meaning was clear. "This is a death sentence against Rushdie."

Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said Sunday that the previous government of her country banned "The Satanic Verses"

as a pretext to create anarchy." She said Muslims should have ignored the book.

"I do feel that the fundamentalists have spread Rushdie's blasphemy," Bhutto said, speaking on a British Broadcasting Corporation programme, "It's Your World."

"Because what somebody writes and is not known, who cares about that blasphemy?... perhaps it would have been more appropriate to ignore such a book, to condemn it," she added.

Bhutto, who came to power three months ago, said Pakistan's previous Islamic "fundamentalist regime had even given permission to Mr. Rushdie to visit Pakistan."

"But suddenly they changed their minds and I don't think it has so much (to do) with Rushdie or the book, but I think they just wanted a pretext to create a law and order situation and to create anarchy," said Bhutto.

She agreed, however, the book should be banned.



## U.N. favours Afghan provisional government

DHAKA (R) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Monday he wanted to see a broadly-based provisional government set up in Kabul to help resolve the crisis in Afghanistan.

Such a government would "lead to general elections which will express democratically the will of Afghan people," he told a news conference during a visit to Bangladesh.

He said the international aspect of the Afghan problem had been solved with the withdrawal of Soviet forces under a U.N.-sponsored accord signed in Geneva last April, but the internal problem remained difficult.

Afghanistan's Western-backed Mujahideen rebels set up an interim government Feb. 23 with Sibghatullah Mojaddidi as president, but the meeting setting it up was boycotted by an Iran-based Afghan guerrilla grouping.

Kabul's President Najibullah favours a coalition but all rebel groups want him to step down. "It is still a very complicated situation and not an easy problem to solve," said Perez de Cuellar, who left later in the day for Kathmandu on the final leg of a five-nation South Asian tour.

Pakistan-based Afghan rebels have dispatched a mission to Islamic countries to win recognition for the government-in-exile seeking to take power in Kabul.

The team, led by radical guerrilla party leader Gulbuddin Hek-

matyar, left Sunday for Tehran, where it will also try to patch up differences with Iran-based rebels, a guerrilla spokesman told Reuters.

He said the group will go on from Iran to Saudi Arabia and then several other Islamic countries, ahead of an Islamic foreign ministers meeting expected later this month.

Washington and Islamabad, which backed the Afghan rebels in their nine-year war against Soviet forces, have said the government of Najibullah is illegitimate.

A consultative council of the seven main Pakistan-based rebel parties has already chosen what it calls an interim government after nearly two weeks of feuding between fundamentalists and moderates and the boycott by groups in Iran.

Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said last week the guerrilla demand for international recognition of this "government" was premature.

Guerrilla sources said Hekmatyar met Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan Saturday with a request that Islamabad take an initiative in according recognition.

But Yaqub Khan said Pakistan could do so only after "some technical problems," were removed, one Afghan source said without elaborating.

No Pakistani statement on the



Javier Perez de Cuellar

meeting was immediately available.

Pakistan is the second major supporter of the Afghan rebels to decline recognition of the new group. Earlier, the United States said a government-in-exile had not met all the requirements for diplomatic recognition.

Hekmatyar, leader of the radical Hezb-i-Islami guerrilla party, has been reluctant to accept the foreign minister's post in the exile government that was given to him by last month's Shura.

But the party's executive committee later said the post would be accepted conditionally.

A committee statement after a meeting in the northwestern Pakistani town of Peshawar said the conditions included the election of a new "Shura" within five months and shifting the government-in-exile to Afghanistan within a month.

## PSP militia fires on helicopters as Aoun enforces ports ban

BEIRUT (AP) — Druze militia gunners fired rockets at two helicopter gunships Monday as they patrolled Lebanon's territorial waters with navy gunboats to enforce a ban on illegal ports run by rival militias, police reported.

They said neither of the French-built Gazelle gunships was hit when the militiamen opened up with multi-barrelled rocket launchers as the helicopters flew near the port of Tyre, 24 kilometres south of Beirut.

The makeshift port has been run by the mainly Druze, Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militia since they captured it from the Falangists in 1985.

A police spokesman, who cannot be named under standing regulations, said: "The helicopters were flying four miles (6 km) off the coast, well beyond the range of the Druze rocket launchers. The firing did not interrupt or stop the patrols."

A Defence Ministry communiqué said foreign ships heading for Lebanon have been warned not

to enter any of the five militia-controlled harbours along Lebanon's 170-kilometre Mediterranean coastline.

The ban was ordered Sunday by army Commander Gen. Michel Aoun, who heads the military cabinet that is vying for power with a rival cabinet in west Beirut.

It was part of his campaign to restore state authority that has been eroded by 14 years of civil war in which Falangist and opposition militias have taken over many of the functions of government.

The militias use their ports to bring in arms and supplies as well as imported goods sold in the areas under their control.

They have levied import duties that robbed the state treasury of

an estimated \$100 million a year.

"We're not forcibly shutting militia harbours or blockading them," said another spokesman, who also can not be named under standing regulations. "We're merely blocking foreign ships from going there."

"If a ship insists on violating the ban, it will be seized and forced to sail into Beirut port so its captain can be questioned before beginning legal procedures against it," he said.

He listed five legal ports — Beirut, Jounieh and Tripoli, north of the capital, and Sidon and Tyre, to the south.

To supervise the new ban, Aoun resurrected a maritime authority made up of representatives of the Public Works Ministry, the navy, air force, police and customs department.

The communiqué said they met Monday at the Defence Ministry in suburban Yarzeh and set up an "operations room to oversee the new ban around the clock."

## High-level meeting opens today in Khartoum on relief for Sudan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government of Sudan and the U.N. jointly open a high-level meeting in Khartoum Tuesday to devise urgent measures for averting a major disaster for populations displaced or adversely affected by the conflict in southern Sudan and by natural calamities.

The meeting, which will be opened by Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi, comes amid mounting Sudanese, U.N. and international concern that unless action is taken immediately to pre-position food stocks in the affected areas before the heavy rainy season which begins in May, a great number of the hundreds of thousands of people already at risk could face outright starvation and death, according to the U.N. secretary-general, Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Commenting on the crisis, the secretary-general said that given the enormous logistical constraints that exist, the relief operation was caught in a "race against time."

Calling for a humanitarian response which must be seen by all as transcending the political aspects of the crisis, Perez de Cuellar urged support for the extraordinary measures that were needed to prevent a repetition, during the forthcoming rainy season, of last year's tragedy, when tens of thousands died. Without such measures, it is conservative-

ly estimated that over 100,000 people may die this year, he said.

The populations affected by this crisis are located either in the conflict area of the southern region, in the bordering provinces immediately north where many have fled for safety, or in Khartoum where they have sought sanctuary in the already overpopulated capital. Many of those who have reached safety have been in appalling condition, especially vulnerable groups such as children, mothers and older people.

The secretary-general will be represented at the meeting by a high-level delegation composed of James P. Grant, under-secretary-general and executive director of the United Nations Children's Fund, James Ingram, executive director of the World Food Programme, and Abdul Rahim A. Farah, under-secretary-general for special political questions, regional cooperation, decolonisation and trusteeship.

Invited to the meeting will be senior representatives of the main aid participants in relief operations. In addition to the Sudanese authorities and United Nations agencies, these will include governments and international and national non-governmental organisations. The meeting's primary concern will be the timely pre-positioning of relief supplies in towns and areas that will be

logistically cut off from outside contact by the onset of the May rains. Because of the magnitude and complexity of this effort, the cooperation of all concerned will need to be intensified in order to ensure effective air, river, rail and road transport and safe passage.

According to the U.N., an estimated 100,000 tonnes of food is required this year for the displaced and affected populations in Sudan. Of this, 80,000 tonnes should be pre-positioned near the areas of need before road and rail transportation is effectively halted in the rainy season from May through November. The major problem is transportation, since donors have already committed 75,000 tonnes of food, and more pledges are expected. In addition, Sudan has had a bumper harvest, its best in 10 years, so food is also available locally outside the conflict and famine areas.

Under the circumstances, an emergency airlift and adequate storage are essential to satisfactory pre-positioning required food stocks and other emergency requirements in time. With the rains, many air strips will again become unusable for cargo planes, and road and rail traffic will either be brought to a halt or severely slowed down, hence the need to have all stocks in place by May, the U.N. said.

## Arafat offers to revive truce in Lebanon

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In the interview published Monday, Arafat said: "I can go to Israel only if my trip is endorsed by all Arabs. I am not (Anwar) Sadat to go to Jerusalem for unilateral negotiations."

The late Egyptian president visited Israel in November 1977 "without prior Arab consent and extended concessions pertaining to the Palestinian right to self-determination without waving a right to do so," Arafat said.

"Had he gone to Israel backed by an Arab consensus, a Palestinian state would have been set up by now."

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, meanwhile, defiantly rejected the U.S. stand that Jewish settlements constructed in the occupied territories were an obstacle to Middle East peace, by telling colleagues in his right-wing Likud bloc: "This doesn't obligate me, it doesn't bother me."

In one of his most fiery speeches, Shamir also denounced Israeli activists of the Peace Now movement for meeting with Palestinians in the occupied territories. Shamir, who spoke Sunday, accused the activists of sabotaging Israel's "political and security" interests.

Finance Minister Shimon Peres, leader of the rival Labour Party, met with Mayor Elias Frej of Bethlehem at his finance ministry office Monday.

An aide to Peres said the two discussed advancing contacts between Israelis and Palestinians.

An angry debate over Israel's policy towards the PLO also erupted Monday in a closed-door session of parliament's defence and foreign affairs committee.

Foreign Minister Moshe Arens denounced plans of other Israeli legislators to meet PLO supporters in New York next week.

"I can understand Israelis who say we must speak to the

PLO, but here there is an attempt to torpedo the government's policy," Arens was quoted by Israel radio as saying.

"Debates must be conducted in Israel, not abroad. Let's say you bring about pressure on Israel and the government caves in, is that how we want to have decisions made by Israel?" Arens reportedly added.

The foreign ministry said Arens will travel to Washington next week to meet U.S. President George Bush.

## 3 Palestinians martyred

Continued from page 1

In the West Bank, soldiers bulldozed three Palestinian homes in Mazra Al Shariya village, claiming the buildings were constructed illegally, reports said.

A small bomb exploded at a soldiers' hideout post north of Tel Aviv, Israel radio reported. No one was injured and 20 Palestinians in the area were detained for questioning, the radio said.

Meanwhile, the Israeli army told four Gaza families that their relatives are to be expelled and offered the families a last meeting Wednesday morning in Gaza prison, reports said.

The four, Abu Abu Karsh, Nabil Tamouh, Mohammad Saadi Madhub and Riyadh Wajih Ajour, aged 22 to 34, are likely to be expelled Thursday or Sunday, the reports said.

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## Britain seeks peace through compromise

Continued from page 1

responsibility in the peace process, following His Majesty King Hussein's decision to sever formal ties with the West Bank, came as a "great encouragement" to Britain. King Hussein's July 1988 decision, he said, had given the peace process "a new impetus."

Addressing the Israeli Council for Foreign Relations Sunday night, Waldegrave said Arafat aimed for a confederation with Jordan.

"A third state would not be our (Britain's) preferred solution, but I do not think it is worth exploring whether it is really the PLO's

objective," he was quoted as saying by Reuters.

"It is our clear understanding and that is one of the positive things that Mr. Arafat said when I met him that confederation (with Jordan) was not an option but an objective of the PLO," he said.

The minister paid tribute to the positive role played by King Hussein in the Arab-Israeli conflict and in helping bring about the Aug. 20 ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war.

Britain's relations with Iran had suffered a "setback" and attempts to rebuild ties had resulted in failure following the row over Salman Rushdie's novel "The Satanic Verses."

"We should certainly like to restore normality between us," said Waldegrave. "But we cannot start the process again until the Iranian leadership is prepared to renounce the use or threat of violence against citizens of other countries."

During his visit to the occupied territories and Israel, Waldegrave met with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and other Israeli officials as well as Palestinian leaders.

The minister said Britain had decided to increase its grant-based programme of technical cooperation with Jordan, replacing some of its aid to the Kingdom in the form of loans.

## Bullets, garbage on the Champs-Elysees of Mideast

By Rana Sabbagh

Reuter

BEIRUT — Rats prowl heaps of garbage and ragged laundry flaps on Beirut's Rue Hamra, once so fashionable it was renowned as the Champs-Elysees of the Middle East.

"Before the war started, Hamra bustled with life. Now it is haunted by ghosts," said shopkeeper Suad Rahmeh, leaning across the counter at Librairie Antoine, one of the wide street's oldest bookshops.

"Lights glittered and the smell of perfume filled the air. People from all over the world, wearing their best outfits, strolled along the polished pavements, sat in cafes or enjoyed the night spots," Rahmeh said with tears welling in her eyes. Hamra has lost its cosmopolitan

charm to nearly 14 years of civil war, militia anarchy and suffering. Heaps of rat-infested garbage decay along its dirty pavements.

Moneychangers with stacks of Lebanese pounds in their hands stand on corners, intercepting passers-by with offers of a deal.

Scores of families who lost their homes to the war have invaded some of Hamra's multi-story trade and banking buildings — many of which were built during a business boom just before the war.

Their dirty tinted-glass facades, which once reflected neon signs while Hamra bustled into the early hours of the morning, are draped with frayed laundry which flaps from windows and balconies.

Few Lebanese dare to leave

their Beirut homes after dark. Most restaurants which were among the top meeting places in the Middle East for Lebanese, Arab and Western intellectuals, politicians and diplomats in years before the war have closed down.

A few soldiers on, but their usual customers have changed.

"I used to serve clients ranging from presidents to artists in this cafe before the war started. Now," said Wafiq, an employee at the Wimpy cafe since it opened in 1968.

The marble and white-washed walls of Hamra "have been transformed into billboards for rival parties and militias."

The movie stars shown on colourful posters adorning cinemas have been replaced by

pictures of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, and militia dead.

Chronic power cuts have also robbed Hamra of its glamour.

During the day, the roar of electricity generators, hooting by nervous drivers and street vendors' calls follow pedestrians as they try to manoeuvre along pavements blocked by illegally parked cars.

Goods displayed in what were exquisitely decorated store windows are shielded by metal doors to protect against bullets.

"The iron door mania began two years ago," said Walid Ahmad, who runs a gift shop. "They were the ideal solution to stop the glass being broken and goods from being stolen

each time militiamen exchanged fire with their machineguns and grenades outside."

Another Hamra shopowner put an ugly end to the risk of ever having to pay for broken plate glass windows. He ordered a concrete wall to be built in their place, blocking his view of Hamra.

But despite years of street battles and shelling, many people who live or work on the street remain optimistic that its glory will be ultimately restored when the civil war comes to an end.

"Give us a president, a strong government, peace and security," said Marleyn Sayed, a Hamra resident. "And we promise that you will once again see the street you knew."

## DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

### PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 ..... Korea  
15:40 ..... Programme review  
15:45 ..... Children programmes  
17:00 ..... Educational programme  
17:30 ..... Religious programme  
18:00 ..... News summary in Arabic  
18:05 ..... Programme on world news  
18:20 ..... Programme on children  
19:10 ..... Agricultural programme  
19:45 ..... Programme review  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Arabic series  
21:30 ..... The Tin Flint  
21:40 ..... Local programme  
22:30 ..... Arabic programme  
23:00 ..... News summary in Arabic

### PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 ..... La Belle Amalric  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... French varieties  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... The Tin Flint  
21:10 ..... Hi Squad  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:20 ..... Hunter

### PRAYER TIMES

04:36 ..... Fajr  
05:52 ..... (Sunrise) Dhuha  
11:47 ..... Dhuhr

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Swetish Tel. 810740  
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 623606  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541  
Anglican Church Tel. 623385, Tel. 628543  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751  
Armenian International Church Tel. 685726  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295  
Rainbow Congregation Tel. 822605  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 81817, 821264

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

AMMAN:  
Dr. Ali As'ad ..... 879519  
Dr. Abdul Wahab Awad ..... 846070  
Dr. Jamal Abu Bakr ..... 746426  
Dr. Isam Abu Riq ..... 681967  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Fendous pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asena pharmacy ..... 637055  
Nairoukh pharmacy ..... 623672

### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Ali As'ad ..... 879519  
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Dr. Jamal Abu Bakr ..... 746426  
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### EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Civil Defence Immediate  
Rescue ..... 63041  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 623909/95  
Blood Bank ..... 75121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 656390/91  
Public Security Department ..... 669131  
Hotel Complaints ..... 656000 / 685111  
Price Complaints ..... 658800  
Water and Sewerage ..... 897467  
Complaints ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality ..... 787111  
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### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642816  
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642412  
Jabal Al-Munther Maternity ..... 642302  
Madhat, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shmeisani ..... 654171/4  
Shmeisani Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 848545  
Al-Muasher Hospital ..... 667271/9  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666127/57  
Al-Abdi, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Italian, Al-Muhajreen ..... 77101/3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 77511/26  
Army, Marjeh ..... 89161/1/5  
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## NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

**AOAS COUNCIL MEETING:** The Council of Ministers had formed Jordan's delegation to the meetings of the executive council of the Amman-based Arab Organisation of Administrative Sciences (AOAS) which will take place on March 27. The council will examine the organisation's 1989 budget and a working plan for the current year. The delegation to the four-day meeting will be led by the secretary general of the Civil Service Commission. (Petra)

**ART EXHIBITION:** Her Royal Highness Princess Wijdan Ali Monday opened a two-week art exhibition by Egyptian Artist Adli Rizkallah at Al Wasiti Gallery in the Plaza Hotel. The exhibition includes 43 paintings depicting man's relationship with the environment and nature. (Petra)

**AL ISRAA WAL M'IRAJ:** Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb Monday attended the celebrations on the occasion of Al Israa Wal M'iraj held by the Jordanian Armed Forces Military Command. Also present were senior army officers. (Petra)

**LUNCHEON HELD FOR CHINESE ENVOY:** Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Dhuqan Al Hindawi Monday gave a luncheon at Plaza Hotel in honour of Chinese Ambassador in Amman Zhang Zhen at the conclusion of his tour of duty. Present were members of the diplomatic corp and senior Foreign Ministry employees. (Petra)

**ANANI RECEIVES ITALIAN ENVOY:** Royal Scientific Society President Dr. Jawad Anani Monday discussed with Italian Ambassador in Amman Francesco de-Curten means to bolster bilateral relations in the fields of science and technology. (Petra)

**ENVOY MEETS TUNISIAN MINISTER:** Tunisian Foreign Minister Abdul Hamid Al Sheikh Monday discussed with Jordan's Ambassador in Tunis Tala Sa'an Al Hassan means to bolster bilateral relations and issues of common interest. (Petra)

**PEOPLE'S ARMY:** A new batch of People's Army recruits Monday graduated in Al Koura district. The military commander of Irbid region addressed the graduates on the importance of the People's Army and called on them to continue training to maintain their high standard. (Petra)

**SALT SEEKS JD 100,000 LOAN:** Salt Municipality has applied for JD 100,000 loan from the Cities and Villages Development Bank to finance road construction works at Salt and neighbouring regions. At the same time the municipality announced that it has started work on public gardens in seven different districts. (Petra)

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSE:** The Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) Monday opened a two and a half month training course in English language at Aqaba. Women employed in offices run by the private and public sectors will benefit from the course. (Petra)

**PAN-ARAB ORGANISATIONS:** The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) is taking part in a meeting held in Cairo to discuss means of developing pan-Arab organisations within a programme that ends by the year 2000. Dr. Jamal Budur represents the RSS at the three-day meeting. (Petra)

**ZAKAT FUND:** Matters related to Zakat (alms for the poor) were discussed by Irbid Governor Akram Naser and the Zakat Fund director at the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Abu Shaqra. The two sides discussed arrangements for collecting alms for the poor in the Irbid Governorate in the presence of the city mayor and representatives of the chamber of commerce. (Petra)

**COMPUTER EXHIBITION:** Yarmouk University Vice-President for Administration Affairs Dr. Fouad Al Sheikh Salem has opened a three-day computer exhibition at the university. The exhibition is organised by the University Computer and Information Centre. (Petra)

**CELEBRATIONS IN MA'AN:** The Awqaf Department in Ma'an Governorate has prepared a four-day programme to celebrate Al Israa Wal M'iraj. This includes delivering sermons at mosques, speeches at police stations, and cultural institutions. (Petra)

## Jordan to mark women's day with cultural events

AMMAN (J.T.) — International Women's Day will be marked in Jordan with a number of lectures, seminars and other cultural events to be organised by women's unions in various parts of the country.

According to an official statement, the events will highlight the Jordanian women's contributions to the social and economic development of the Kingdom over the years.

Among the activities will be a luncheon organised by the Amman Business and Professional Women's Club (ABPWC) to be attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma. The Princess is expected to address the meeting on women's issues and their contribution to social and economic endeavours.

Along with other women's organisations the ABPWC has planned seminars, lectures and cultural events to mark the occasion.

On March 11, Health Minister Zuhair Malhas will attend a seminar on the dangers of smoking while Labour Minister Marwan

Dudin will attend a seminar on working women and employment in Jordan on March 15.

Minister of Education Thouqan Al Hindawi will attend part of the events to be held at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation in Amman. These events will tackle the question of education and women in general.

Observation of the International Women's Day in Jordan follows the conclusion of the first meeting here by the Arab Women Scientific Council which met under the patronage of Princess Basma.

The council passed a set of decisions designed to improve the condition of poor rural and urban women through the introduction of projects and programmes in their areas.

The decisions followed a two-day meeting by the council's board members who reviewed a number of issues pertaining to the council's activities and discussed programmes which can be launched in cooperation with regional and international organisations.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan with the staff of the Jordan Centre for the Production of Veterinary Vaccines after opening the centre Monday (Petra photo)

## Crown Prince urges talks on promoting veterinary services

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday opened the Jordan Centre for the Production of Veterinary Vaccines which will be marketed in the Kingdom and in the neighbouring Arab states.

In a brief speech at the ceremony, Prince Hassan praised the efforts of the Ministry of Agriculture, which set up the centre, and called for a round table conference, to be attended by repre-

sentatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Jordan University of Science and Technology and other concerned parties, to discuss the general policy for developing livestock wealth and to promote veterinary services in the Kingdom.

The new centre, according to Ministry of Agriculture officials, will produce 170 million vaccines of various types annually, to be marketed here and abroad.

Minister of Agriculture Yousef Hamdan Al Jabr, who was present at the ceremony, stated that animal diseases are the main obstacle which adversely affect livestock development in the Kingdom and they cause considerable losses for farmers and

the national economy. Preserving the lives of animals in general and livestock in particular remains one of the main objectives of the ministry, the minister noted.

Jabr said his ministry's departments around the Kingdom inoculated nearly 14 million heads of various animals last year. "The ministry," he said, "strives to set up specialised clinics to provide veterinary services on a large scale."

Jabr said a number of such clinics are already in operation in the Jerash and Ajloun districts and the ministry is operating a mobile clinic which tours desert regions and provide inoculation to sheep, cattle and goats.

## Mrs. Waldegrave visits Baq'a Camp

AMMAN (J.T.) — Caroline Waldegrave, wife of the British Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave, Monday visited Baq'a camp centre for the handicapped where she presented equipment donated by the British embassy to the disabled children.

The donation, valued at £3,000 (about JD 2,850), included special toys and physiotherapy equipment.

The centre, which was opened in April, 1988, caters for some 40 disabled children who are cared for by 20 volunteers. It has an annual budget of \$15,000 paid by Diakonia, a Swedish charitable organisation.

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) has three other centres in Jordan whose annual running costs are paid by Oxfam and the Mennonite Central Committee.

## RSS to conduct studies on ARMICO projects

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Amman-based Arab Mining Company (ARMICO) Monday signed a memorandum of understanding with the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) under which the latter will conduct a number of studies related to ARMICO's projects in Jordan and other Arab countries.

The RSS will conduct geological, technical, mineral and industrial studies on projects which

ARMICO is launching in the Arab World.

The agreement also provides for exchanges of expertise, cooperation in organising seminars and training courses.

An RSS spokesman said that the memorandum followed a successful study which the RSS had carried out for ARMICO concerning the implementation of the marble project in North Yemen.

## Amman to be base for 5 Mideast states planning grid interconnection

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Amman has been chosen to serve as the headquarters of a technical committee comprising delegates from five Middle Eastern countries which plan to carry out a power grid interconnection in the region.

The announcement, which followed a three-day committee meeting here held at the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) head office, said that the cost of the project was estimated at \$500 million to be carried out between 1991 and 1993.

The delegates who represent Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Egypt and Turkey said that a feasibility study will be conducted on the project by a major international firm, in cooperation with the technical departments following up the execution of the project in the respective countries, according to the announcement made by Mohammad Arafah, JEA Director General who is also committee chairman.

Arafah said that the committee meeting has decided on the broadlines of terms and conditions that will be required from

nine major international companies bidding for the scheme. A comprehensive report on the project, including the feasibility study, will be completed by August 1991 and submitted to the technical committee meeting for a final approval, Arafah noted.

He said the five delegates agreed that a steering committee, grouping the directors general of energy and electricity agencies in the five countries, will be formed to supervise the studies and to be helped with a technical committee comprising 10 experts from the countries involved in the project.

The Islamic Development Bank and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development were represented at the meeting, since they would be involved in the implementation of the project.

The delegates discussed technical aspects of the interconnection scheme among their countries.

The five countries elected Mr. Ribhi Hamed from JEA to serve as committee secretary general.

Commenting on the agreement, Dr. Mustafa Sweidan, deputy director of the Egyptian Electricity Board, said that the step reflected "the progressive excellent relations between Arab countries."

The project he said will boost the five countries' power generating capabilities through inter-feeding programmes of the joint grid.

## American College team briefed on NHF projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — A visiting delegation representing students of the American College of Switzerland Monday met with Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) Director General Mrs. In'am Al Mufti and heard a briefing on the NHF's activities and projects in the Kingdom.

Mufti spoke in detail about projects carried out in social and economic fields which were designed to improve the living standards of the local communities particularly women's condition.

Mufti explained that the NHF's schemes mainly concern education, culture, child welfare, rural development and family matters.

The delegation visited Al Raya Factory in Mafrqa, which is run by NHF's Women's Department in cooperation with the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

On Thursday the delegation will visit the Bani Hamida weaving project which employs some 300 local women involved in weaving traditional carpets.

The National Handicraft Development Project, recently set up by the NHF, is in charge of the Bani Hamida scheme.

The delegation, which arrived in Amman Sunday on a six-day visit to Jordan, will tour agricultural projects in the Jordan Valley region, the Dead Sea, the ancient Nabatean city of Petra in southern Jordan, the Women Police Training Centre, the Family Planning Centre and other places of interest.

The students are taking a course on Third World Development at the college under the supervision of Priscilla Basson, who had worked for ten years at Yarmouk University in Irbid and conducted a series of studies on Jordanian women and the local society.

## Dajani inspects Sahab, Muwaqqar services

AMMAN (Petra) — Interior Minister Rajai Dajani Monday made an inspection tour of Sahab and Muwaqqar, south east of Amman, and inspected the public services in the two areas.

The minister heard a detailed briefing by the Sahab district governor on the progress, in the development of the five-year plan in the Sahab region.

He later studied a reorganisational plan for the Muwaqqar area in terms of public services and development projects, especially those designed to develop agriculture and increase livestock wealth.

The minister urged the concerned parties to conduct social surveys in the two areas and conduct an assessment of the benefits of the development schemes for the local inhabitants.

Dajani expressed the Ministry of Interior's readiness to extend assistance towards solving problems in Sahab and Muwaqqar.

## National Gallery hosts exhibition of graphics by renowned German artists

AMMAN (J.T.) — The National Gallery of Modern Art in Jebel Luweibdeh and the Goethe Institute present the works of three renowned German artists who contributed masterly innovations to the world of graphic art. The exhibition was inaugurated Saturday by Chief Chamberlain Prince Raad Ibn Zeid and Princess Majda.

Around the year 1874 when these artists first exhibited, Europe was undergoing great changes that affected the world of art; changes not only in external images, but in the subject matter itself which opened up new possibilities of artistic expression and a diversity of approaches.

It is in this atmosphere of innovation that Max Liebermann (1847-1935), Lovis Corinth (1858-1925) and Max Slevogt (1868-1932) lived and worked, each seeking his identity and a new artistic independence.

Liebermann went to Paris and

Barbizon to study at first hand the art of Jean-Francois Millet. This influence can be clearly seen in Der Muellerin Reue (the Miller's Wife), a peasant on her way to work in the open fields. He played an important role in Berlin's replacement of Munich as the key centre of art in Germany. His intelligence and the accuracy of his observations contributed to a form of painting which combined a strong grasp of reality with a high degree of sensitivity.

Liebermann started as a painter. He began his graphic printing so famous for its clarity, relatively late. In 1887 he used the vernis mou technique. It enabled him to weave together space, objects and figures into a new relationship — a highly atmospheric one. Etching, vernis mou, and dry-point techniques were sometimes blended together into superb harmony where bold strokes indicate a vehemence, a robustness of attack, which is contrasted

with highly subtle differentiations in which the whiteness of the paper plays an intrinsic part.

Liebermann concentrates primarily on the human figure in motion and portraits of a wide variety of professional personalities that dealt with him and with the intellectual circle around the Berlin Secession.

His etchings reached a mastery that was to serve as a model for others because of the freedom they display and their constantly spontaneous freshness.

Like Liebermann, Lovis Corinth and Max Slevogt began their printed graphic work with etchings; they used similar subjects: portraits, landscapes and nudes.

Slevogt was not satisfied with the painting medium; it was with dry point that he attempted to create form by force. Like Corinth, he did not attempt to depict perceived reality, but showed a sensuous vitality of observation which is forcefully expressed. They both had a "literary" penchant; the artist had to come to grips artistically with the nature of his impressions and his abilities. He had to depict his world, his outlook, his own personal observations on what is happening around and inside him.

This approach brought Lovis Corinth into contact with the 'Jugendstil' which had a great influence on his art. In December 1911, he suffered a serious illness that profoundly affected his whole personality. His line loses its sinuosity and his heavier hand works in parallel hatching strokes. The creative intensity behind them seems greater. He painted portraits of friends and family. His conscious struggle to achieve a physiognomic likeness comes into conflict with his "vision" of the model, which makes

physical appearance seem incidental, so he tends to reduce the model's face to a kind of psychic image of his own state of mind and expresses the human motivations behind what the characters do. In his self-portraits, he gets carried away with the mood of the moment, hovering between depression and composure.

Corinth was drawn to landscapes. He depicted two places, the property he bought after World War I, which had a strong beneficial effect on both his health and his creative powers allowing him to produce gracefully light and transparent lithographs, and views of metropolitan Berlin which had an overall "haroque" quality as far as the harmonious balance between architecture, sculpture and the artist's eye.

Max Slevogt's contribution to graphic art was in the field of illustration. In 'Ali Baba' he left his drawings open at the edges and built them into the text. He had great imagination and responded swiftly to what he read.

He succeeded in making the human motivation behind the actions credible — whether he is dealing with a silent gesture or a strong fit of temper.

From this light-hearted storytelling he moves in 1905 into "black scenes" which are somber, nocturnal and exotic; they create a macabre atmosphere inspired by Goya's etchings.

In his multi-figured scenes the action becomes richer and the background space becomes an organic part of the whole picture. In the Iliad, Penthesilea and other mythological scenes, he avoids all temptations to take a classicist line. With a minimum of small touches — scarcely more than details of armour and weapons — he succeeds in evok-



Death and Artist by Lovis Corinth

ing the historical background. The events move swiftly, imbued with passion whether they represent the tumult of battle, raging anger or overwhelming pain. We can see here the influence of the famous French Romantic painter, Eugene Delacroix who set the forces of his colour and action into motion.

He also illustrated the life of Benvenuto Cellini, the goldsmith and sculptor whose patrons promise him the earth and then humiliate him and finally Goethe's Faust which is the most sophisticated testimony of his whole creation.

Max Slevogt attaches great importance to the reaction of people to his works. They are "co-creators" who must catch the artist's own productive excitement and be able to continue his creative process for themselves. That is when the work of art comes to life within them... For no work of art is absolutely entire and perfect in itself, however much it may be admired.

The Jordanian public is then beseeched to attend and interact with this sensational collection which will remain in the Royal National Gallery in Jebel Luweibdeh until March 13.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- \* An exhibition entitled "The Icebreaker" which includes showing a film about the activities of a Swedish icebreaker and the environment surrounding it, a photo exhibition and a radio programme at the French Cultural Centre.
- \* An art exhibition by Mohammad Bolis and Munira Al-Tunisiyya at Al Qadisiyya College.
- \* An exhibition of paintings for children by Titiana Rifai and Karoline Ayyoub at Haya Arts Centre.
- \* A plastic art exhibition by Rula Shuqiri at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- \* A plastic art exhibition by Noelle Shawa at Alia Art Gallery.
- \* An art exhibition by Ahmed Subeih at the Petra Bank Gallery.
- \* A graphic art exhibition displaying works by German artists Liebermann, Slevogt and Corinth at the Jordan National Gallery.
- \* Amman International Book Exhibition which includes various scientific, literary, religious and children's books at the International Motor Centre.
- \* An art exhibition by Egyptian artist 'Adli Rizkallah at Al Wasiti Gallery.

### FILMS

- \* A video film on the French Revolution entitled "Marie-Antoinette" at the French Cultural Centre — 4:00 p.m.
- \* A German film entitled "Palermo oder Wolfsburg" (English subtitled) at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.



The Miller's Wife's Remorse by Max Liebermann



## Jordan Times

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## For mankind's sake

WHEN it comes to defending the ozone layer which is protecting planet Earth, life and the environment from ultraviolet radiation, one must speak in absolute terms: All mankind's problems, conflicts and dangers are absolutely minuscule in comparison with the ozone issue. That is why the world sighed with relief when an initial agreement was reached in Montreal in 1987 calling for a 50 per cent reduction in the production of chlorofluorocarbons and other chemicals that break down ozone layer in the upper atmosphere thus seriously and definitely endangering life and environment on Earth.

However, that international injunction proved to be insufficient in the face of mounting evidence that the ozone over the Antarctic and Arctic regions has been dangerously depleted in recent winters. And to add insult to injury, only 31 countries have bothered to ratify the Montreal agreement. Such ominous developments have led the countries of the world to think afresh about additional measures to protect life and environment. What ensued was the Brussels meeting between the 12 European Community countries a few days ago which culminated in a historic decision to completely ban global emissions of chemicals that harm the atmosphere's ozone shield by the end of the twentieth century. Although the industrial countries stand out as the primary culprits in this threat to the ozone shield, the rest of the international community cannot escape responsibility as they are among the prime users of such chemicals. This makes it incumbent on them to join the London's 112-nation conference on "saving the ozone layer," which opened Sunday. Indeed as all countries, rich and poor, developed or developing, are heavily engrossed in liberal and unrestricted usage of chlorofluorocarbons as coolants in refrigerators and air conditioners and as propellants in aerosol spray cans as well as solvents and foam insulation, it has become most pressing to have all such countries deeply involved in the process of stopping the savage attack on nature's shield of man and his environment from imminent destruction.

As human beings who are deeply concerned about the continuous rape of the Earth's environment in the name of progress and industrialisation, all citizens of the planet Earth must salute the organisers of the Brussels and London meetings and pledge to support in good faith the resolutions of these two conferences. Likewise Jordan can play a leading role in the on-going London conference by campaigning actively for a successful London meeting and by signing and ratifying the projected London agreement as soon as possible.

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

BRITISH Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave started an official visit here Monday to talk to senior government officials following his tour in the occupied Arab territories, said the Al Ra'i daily Monday. No doubt the British minister has closely studied the situation in the Israeli-occupied Arab lands and witnessed the atrocities committed against the Palestinian people, the paper noted. The paper said that the visit and the tour come on the eve of a meeting in Vienna Tuesday by the foreign ministers of the Soviet Union and the United States who have an agenda of world issues to discuss topped by the Arab-Israeli conflict and the situation in the Middle East region. It said that Britain's open call on Israel to talk to the Palestinians over their future and the Soviet endeavours to bring about a change in Washington's stand vis-a-vis an international Middle East peace conference are bound to pave the way for a parity under U.N. auspices to find a peace formula for the troubled Middle East region. The paper said that Israel will be further isolated from the world community if it persisted in its present policies and adhered to its intransigence with regard to a just solution.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily comments Monday on the situation in Sudan and says that reports indicate that the government crisis there is phasing out. Abdul Rahman Omar says that the consensus and agreement among the Sudanese leaders on a solution to the problem of the south is an indication that the various political factions and the different sectors of the population have finally realised the need to agree on a formula that can preserve security and stability and pave the ground for progress and development. Reports say that the ruling Umma Party has responded to calls by the armed forces and other parties for a settlement and this development can lead to a new round of negotiations with the rebels in the south to preserve the unity of the country, the writer adds. He says that the on-going rebellion in the south and the deteriorating economic conditions in the whole of the country make it incumbent upon the various parties to come to an agreement despite the fact that small elements are still opposing any reconciliation with the south. It is hoped, the writer says, that the leaders of Sudan will come to an agreement on common denominator that can ensure a lasting settlement.

Al Dustour daily said Monday that William Waldegrave will be warmly welcomed in Jordan and the other Arab countries following his tour in the occupied Arab lands. The paper said that the Jordanian people consider Waldegrave's statements during his tour as expressing his demand for justice to be established in the occupied lands and reflecting the policies of the British government, policies that are marked by far-sightedness and wisdom. It said that Waldegrave has told the Zionist leaders that the world has changed and the era of colonisation has ended and emphasised the need for an end to occupation which is no more fruitful. He also made it clear to the Israelis that no atrocities of inhuman practices against the Arabs will do them good and can never achieve the evil objectives of the Zionist movement.

Sawt Al Shaab daily said William Waldegrave has come to the conclusion that Israel's presence in the occupied territories should be terminated as soon as possible so that peace can be established in the whole Middle East region. His views reflect the official policies of the United Kingdom and are in line with those of David Melor, another British minister who toured the occupied territories and watched the Israeli atrocities, the paper noted. It said that the deteriorating conditions of the Palestinian people under Israeli rule and Israel's inhuman practices against the Arab inhabitants have prompted the minister to call for a speedy end to the present situation.

## Palestinians have the right to pursue the armed struggle against Israel

By Pascal B. Karmy

THERE were news spread recently in the American and British media that Henry Kissinger might be appointed as a special envoy to the Middle East with a view to settling the Palestine problem and putting an end to the intifada and thereby save Israel from the predicament in which it has fallen, or that he might at least be consulted on that problem. These news may not be true. However, it should be noted that two of his associates, Egeberger and Scrowcroft, have been appointed in President Bush administration, the first in the State Department and the second as head of the National Security Council.

One may remember Kissinger's sinister advice to the Israeli government to take harsher measures against the Palestinian intifada in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to black-out those territories from foreign media in order to hide the atrocious treatment meted out by the Israeli army on the Palestinians who rose up to oust the ruthless occupiers from their sacred ancestral homeland. It may be recalled also that His Majesty King Hussein had refused to receive Kissinger during his last visit to the Middle East in 1981 because of the nefarious role he played in the Arab region and the destructive intentions and effects of his policies. Moreover, Kissinger was the protagonist of the clause embodied in the Annex to the Disengagement Agreement (Sinai II) of 1975 between Egypt and Israel. This clause stipulated that the U.S. will not speak to or contact the PLO unless the latter accepted Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, recognised Israel and denounced "terrorism."

Now the PLO has met Kissinger's conditions and a preliminary dialogue has started in Tunis between U.S. and PLO representatives. The dialogue does not seem so far to have touched upon the substance of the Palestine problem. Instead, it has gradually transpired and became clear that the U.S. wants to exploit the dialogue with the PLO beyond its purpose, that is, to use it as a means to force the PLO to cease all sorts of legitimate resistance to Israel as an occupier of Palestinian territory. The latest warning by the State Department to the PLO in connection with the attempted raid on military targets in Israel from southern Lebanon is not consonant with the United Nations Charter provisions or with the established principles of international law concerning armed struggle against an occupier of foreign territory. Armed struggle against an occupier is quite distinct from acts of terrorism. The Palestinian people who have been uprooted from their homeland and are still being ruthlessly deported therefrom, dispossessed of their lands and properties and deprived of their political rights, including the right to self-determination, have the full right and duty to carry on the armed struggle against Israel which itself is terrorising the unarmed Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Indeed the right to armed struggle is provided for in the United Nations General Assembly resolution 2787 of Dec. 6, 1971 which confirmed later also, "The legitimacy of the struggle of the Palestinians (amongst other peoples), for self-determination and liberation from colonial and foreign domination and alien subjugation by all means available consistent with the United States Charter." Also resolution 3070 of Nov. 30, 1973, after reaffirming the inalienable right to self-determination of all peoples under alien subjugation, it reaffirmed the legitimacy of the peoples' struggle for liberation from alien domination by all means including armed struggle. Similarly resolution 3236 of Nov. 22, 1974 specifically recognises the right of the Palestinian people to regain their rights by all means in accordance with the purposes and principles of the U.N. Charter. In connection with the above resolutions, it is relevant to quote Professors Thomas and Sally Mallison of George Washington University:

"Since the American revolution relied upon armed struggle to



achieve self-determination about a century and a third before the principle of self-determination was used in the post World War I peace settlement, it is not surprising that the General Assembly specifies it as a permissible method now. Its permissibility is legally significant as an authoritative General Assembly assertion that armed struggle for self-determination is consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. In a situation such as Palestine, where the people have been denied their right of self-determination by armed force, the right to regain it by armed struggle is considered permissible under article 51 of the (U.N.) Charter concerning self-defence.

Thus it is clear that the State Department warning to the PLO constitutes a denial of the Palestinian right to armed struggle and is misplaced and unjustified. A reader of recent history may observe, in passing, how Kissinger himself negotiated on behalf of the U.S. with the Vietnamese in Paris while the fighting was raging in Vietnam and American soldiers were being killed by the Vietcong.

The U.S. will be greatly mistaken, in my view, if by initiating the dialogue with PLO, it tries to subdue the latter to its wishes and force it at the end to enter into an agreement with the Israeli government on U.S. and Israeli terms as was the case with the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, who was gradually dragged to sign the Camp David accords of 1978, and 1979 which accorded a simple "autonomy" to the Palestinians. At the same time Israeli government is trying to label all PLO activities as terrorism for the purpose on the one hand of suppressing Palestinian struggle for the liberation of its territory, and on the other to persuade the U.S. to cut off the dialogue with the PLO. It will not be surprising if Israel uses agents provocateurs to carry out terrorist acts and attribute them to the PLO in order to discredit it. Israel is expert in distorting the facts by labelling armed acts of resistance as terrorism thus vilifying Palestinian nationalism.

The U.S. uses one standard in its dealing with the Palestine liberation movement and applies another to other liberation movements. For example the U.S. takes no action whatsoever against Irish people in the U.S. who collect contributions for the

Irish Republican Army (IRA) which is active not only in Northern Ireland but also in Britain itself despite Margaret Thatcher's displeasure at the inaction of the U.S. authorities. Is not the U.S. presently aiding the Afghan Mujahideen by sending them arms and money and did not the Reagan administration aid and arm the contras in Nicaragua although in both countries there exist a lawfully constituted government recognised by all states including the U.S.? In the case of the Palestinians, however, it seems that the U.S. considers any armed attack from south Lebanon as a terrorist act which may result in breaking off U.S.-PLO dialogue. In this connection it behoves the State Department to remember that part of northern Israel, in particular the western Galilee, was included as a part of the Arab state as defined by the United Nations partition resolution 181 of 1947. Consequently any attack on military targets in that part of the Palestine territory cannot be labelled as a terrorist act but an act for the purpose of liberating an occupied territory recognised as such by the United Nations itself.

The PLO will not bow to the U.S. diktat nor to Israel blackmailing. It will not be deflected from pursuing its primary purpose for regaining the usurped territory for which it has been fighting for more than two decades. The purpose of the U.S.-PLO dialogue should be to discuss fundamentals of the Palestine problem namely the confirmation of the rights of the Palestinians to self-determination and the consequent establishment of their state according to resolution 181. I believe that the State Department will be suffering from a great illusion if it thinks that the dialogue should end the Palestinian struggle against Israel's occupation. Rather the U.S. should bring pressure to bear on Israel to stop its terror in the occupied territories against the defenceless Palestinian civilians. The Palestinians supported by the PLO will not stop their intifada against the ruthless occupier. They will not be deceived by a dialogue which will not tackle the fundamentals of the Palestine problem. The dialogue should lead to the realisation of the Palestinians rights and not be used as scenario for a deceptive play.

## Change in E. Europe poses challenges for East and West

By Patrick Worsnip-  
Reuter

LONDON — The quickening pace of change in Eastern Europe is beginning to erode the "iron curtain" that has divided the continent for four decades.

But any collapse of the old order that was tacitly agreed at the U.S.-Soviet-British Yalta conference in 1945 could pose almost as many challenges for the capitalist West as for the Communist East, experts believe.

"The West has been living very comfortably for the past 40 years: East is East and West is West and nothing can be done about it. Well now, I think something can be done about it," says George Schoepflin of the London School of Economics.

The front-runner in the drive for reform in the Soviet bloc is Hungary which has twinned economic moves to throw off the shackles of central planning with a programme of major law reforms due to restore the possibility of a multi-party system suppressed by the Communists after World War II.

Last week, the ruling Socialist Workers (Communist) Party agreed to drop its present guarantee of a leading political role — the sacred cow of Eastern bloc Communism — when a new constitution is published this year.

Poland, where the Communists have long faced determined resistance from the Roman Catholic Church and, over the past decade, from the independent Solidarity trade union, is also embracing change, though less boldly than Hungary.

In crucial talks with Solidarity, now expected to regain legal status after a six-year ban, the authorities have agreed to give the opposition up to 40 per cent of seats in parliament, to allow independent political clubs and legalise underground journals.

Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria have launched economic reform programmes without giving any real sign of relaxing political control. Romania and East Germany say they see no need for any shift of course.

The changes under way are largely inspired by the radical new policies of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, who is trying to make his country's unwieldy economy more competitive and partially democratise public life. Elections next month will, for the first time, feature a choice of

officially approved candidates, though Gorbachev has dismissed as rubbish any idea of a multi-party system.

Officials from both sides of Europe are wondering just how far the reformist leaderships will go. Even if their political will holds, the East European economies are simply not strong enough at present to compete in a free-market system, officials and experts agree.

In Hungary, many analysts say, the Communists look set to hold on to power — at least for a transitional period — after elections next year, possibly on the basis of a pact with the still disorganised and fractious opposition.

But in the second half of the 1990s, could there be a fully Western-style democracy in Hungary?

"It's possible," says Karen

Dawisha of the University of Maryland. "If any country can do it, Hungary can."

Analysts say the Soviet Union no longer seems interested in suppressing changes in Eastern Europe, as it did in Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968.

At the moment the Soviets are content to allow things to run on without feeling the need to intervene too directly, provided their vital interests are not threatened. "But," he added, "we are finding it increasingly difficult to define what those vital interests are."

In a statement prominently reported in Budapest, a leading Soviet political scientist, Oleg Bogomolov, said recently that even if Hungary opted for politically neutral status "that would not present a danger... precisely because of its neutrality."

Despite this, most Western experts see no prospect of Hungary attempting to leave the Warsaw Pact.

But East Europe's slow shift away from cold war attitudes, coupled with major Soviet disarmament initiatives and the prospect of negotiated force cuts in a few years by NATO and the Warsaw Pact are already causing headaches for the West.

West Germany, whose public sees a declining military threat from the Soviet Union, is holding back on the modernisation of NATO's tactical nuclear weapons and opening a rift with the United States and Britain who want to press ahead.

And, however distasteful the post-World War II division of Europe, it has coincided with the continent's longest period of peace for many centuries. Suppose that division fell away?

"There are risks. One doesn't want to rush into it," a Western diplomat said.

One medium-term possibility that analysts are increasingly raising is that Hungary might seek to join the European Community. An application from a Warsaw Pact member would pose problems for Brussels, as EC membership so far has been limited to West European democracies.

Nevertheless, while advocating caution and rejecting any idea of a "Marshall plan" of economic aid to the Communist regimes, the Western nations feel they have no choice but to encourage greater independence for their neighbours in the East.

"Chaos in Eastern Europe would serve nobody's interest but we need to convince the Soviet Union that evolutionary change will not threaten its own fundamental interest," British Foreign

Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said in a recent speech.

## LETTERS

### Thank you

To the Editor:  
We would like to extend our thanks to you and to all those responsible for the article published on page 5 of the Jordan Times of March 4, 1989 about tourism in the Seychelles. The article was a true reflection of the Seychelles and the economic boom in its tourism industry. May we take the opportunity to remind you of our readiness to furnish you with any information about Seychelles at any time. Assuring you of our best attention.

Izzat Dajani  
Consul

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# Kipling under the looking glass

English novelist and poet Rudyard Kipling is regarded with affection by generations of readers worldwide. Many of the works of this essentially great storyteller are regarded as 'classics' of literature. But the most recent biography of the celebrated author shows him in a new light.

By Maggie James

LONDON — Over a century after his birth author Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936) remains one of the most popular British authors of all time. Although his writings have been in and out of fashion over the years, he has left a legacy of stories and poems, and his name will live in perpetuity in literary annals. Other authors of his period have had their day; Kipling has always had his audience, writes one admirer.

A controversial new biography by Martin Seymour-Smith, entitled simply *Rudyard Kipling*, analyses Kipling and his work. Seymour-Smith is becoming notorious for the psychological scrutiny of his subjects — unfortunately, the outcome in this case is a character assassination. Seemingly obsessed with Kipling's sexuality, one soon comes to the conclusion that the biographer has little regard for Kipling or his writing.

Born in Bombay, India, where his father was an art teacher, Joseph Rudyard Kipling was brought up by native servants and as a very young child spoke better "Hindustani" than English. Educated in England, he returned to the subcontinent at the age of 17 to take a job on the *The Civil and Military Gazette* of Lahore.

A colleague on the newspaper recalls: "As a journalist Rudyard

Kipling was far from being a great success. His father had induced his own father and the other proprietors of the two papers to give the young Rudyard a post on the Lahore paper. But in the day-to-day business of journalism Kipling did not by any means shine. He had little taste for mere routine duties; he was apt to neglect the rather tedious assignments that inevitably fell to the lot of the junior members of a very small staff." Conflictingly, E. Kay Robinson who became the editor of the paper encouraged Kipling and spoke highly of him as a journalist.

The first real stories Kipling wrote appeared in the *The Civil and Military Gazette* from 1886 onwards. They were collected under the title *Plain Tales from the Hills* in 1888, and published by a firm in Bombay. They became very popular in India almost instantly, but the copies that went to England were for the time being almost unheeded there. "Very naturally and properly, they are exceedingly journalistic. But that does not obscure their merit," concedes Seymour-Smith almost grudgingly.

By the beginning of 1887 Kipling was known all over India, and critics in other parts of the world began to discuss his work. He moved to a job on the *Pioneer* at Allahabad, a bigger paper with a circulation outside

India. By then he was turning out an enormous spate of material: poems, some essays, stories (he still contributed to *The Civil and Military Gazette*) and travel sketches, for which he was well supplied with facts, his job taking him all over India.

Torn in two

Seymour-Smith advocates that Kipling's attitude to India was torn in two: reverence for the ancient, mysterious and wise, which appealed to the religious,

## BOOK REVIEW

sensual, romantic and imaginative side of his personality; and contempt for what he considered its political childishness, or childlikeness, and total lack of capacity for self-government.

He was always prepared to love the Indians, provided they made no attempts to look after their own destiny. "These attitudes," claims Seymour-Smith, "were never resolved within him. They ceased to develop after he left India in 1889, and gradually became petrified in him. His imperialistic ideas were founded in part on his notion that he was an expert on India."

Returning to London in 1889, Kipling found that his works were widely read in England, even though his writing had not yet become very lucrative. In 1894 Kipling, by now married, went to live in Vermont, USA for four years and it was during this period that he wrote the two *Jungle Books* — humanised fables of Indian wild life and

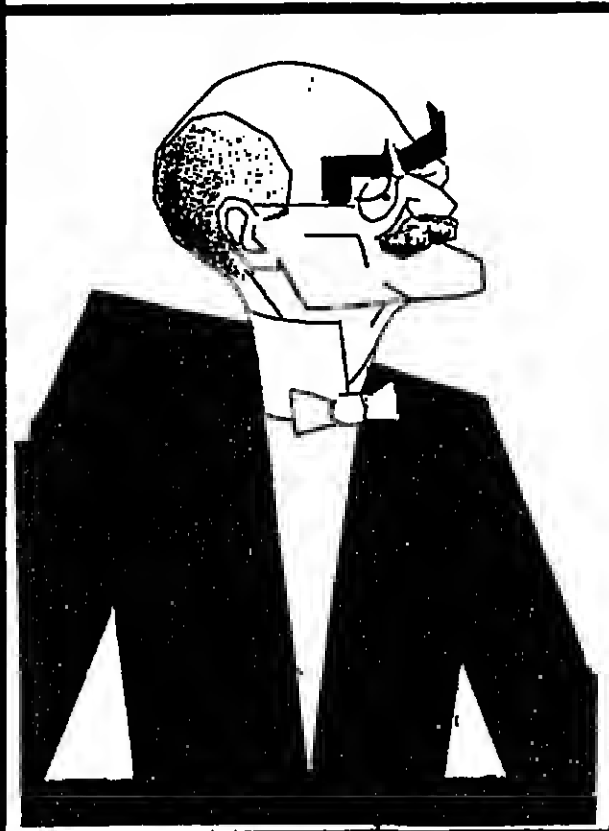
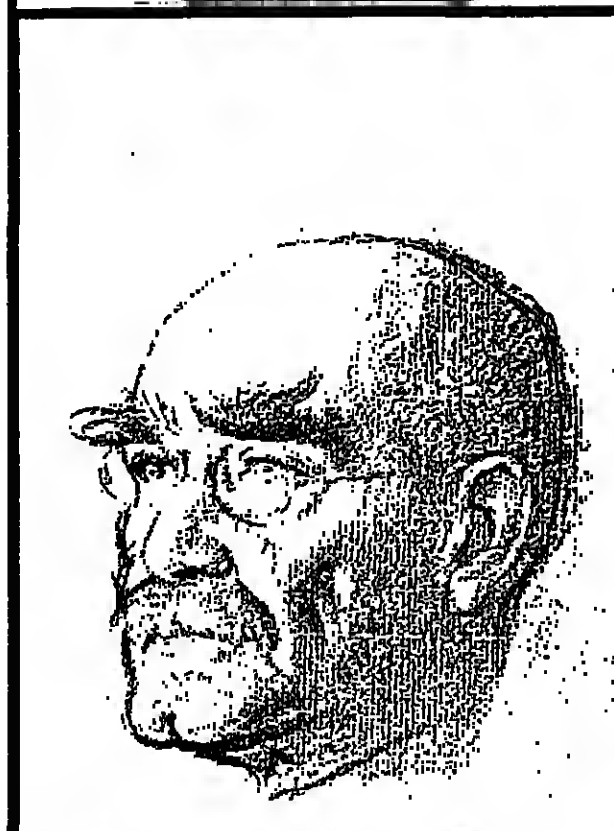
jungle lore. They have remained classics of English literature for children — along with the *Just So Stories*, *Stalky & Co* and *Puck of Fook's Hill*. But Kipling is also renowned for his poetry — such pieces as *Mandalay*, *Recessional* and *Barrack-Room Ballads*.

Criticising one of Kipling's greatest books, Seymour-Smith writes: "Kim is not, for me, quite the masterpiece that it is for many critics. That it is essentially a children's book hardly matters. But it falls between two stools: it is a book written for children and one written for adults, and its author can never make up his mind which."

"He could never have got it quite right unless he had made the painful return to India, to look at the past, irrevocably lost, in the light of the present. Understandably, he didn't have the courage to do this: he was not a man who liked to go back, and such an attitude is a part and parcel of his refusal ever to talk about people who had died, and could not be brought back into his life."

In 1907 Kipling received the Nobel Prize for Literature — the first Englishman to win it and at the time the youngest ever recipient. Although he accepted many honours and academic degrees, he consistently refused to accept a knighthood.

The renowned author Somerset Maugham said that Kipling is "...our greatest story writer. I can't believe he will ever be equalled. I am sure he can never be excelled" — a sentiment with which many will agree. — *Academic File*.



Kipling clockwise: 1. At age six; 2. Caricature by Max Beerbohm; 3. Portrait by Will Rothenstein and 4. Illustration from the Illustrated London News.

# Hanging clouds in Sumatra

Indonesia's government, intent on preserving a protected forest, is in conflict with settlers. Hundreds of homes have been destroyed.

By Rachmat Hassan

JAKARTA — Hundreds of settlers' houses in a southern Sumatra forest reserve have been burned down, according to the settlers, in a final government bid to evict them and "preserve the environment."

The burning followed months of repeated calls on the settlers to move out from Pulau Panggang district, part of a huge conservation area in Lampung Selatan. Lampung's vice-governor, Subekti Harun, has since denied issuing any instruction to burn the houses in order to evict the settlers. The instruction, he said, was to demolish houses left vacant when settlers decided to move on to other transmigration areas in Rawa Jitu and Riau, further north.

Last year, the government was able to move only 575 out of the 2,400 families in the district to the transmigration sites. But a total of 970 houses were reported burned or demolished in Desa Air Naningan, Air Bakoman and Datar Lebui villages.

Throughout the Lampung reserve, which was created after the settlers arrived, some 34,000 families (about 170,000 people), covering nearly half the area of the reserve, are to be resettled, according to government plans.

The settlers, who came from Java in the 1950s, depend upon rich coffee plantations. They fear that they will not get such fertile land if they move.

Nevertheless, "allowing the squatters to stay in the region would be a more inhuman act," said the governor of Lampung, Peodjono Pranyoto. "Think of the rain, the flood and the landslides if they continued to live in the area." Natural disasters have been hitting a number of Indonesian provinces in the current rainy season, and "there would be more victims," the governor said.

The deputy chairman of Lampung's House of Representatives, Colonel Soewardi, said the measure had to be taken to save the protected forest area which accounts for about 1.2 million hectares, one third of Lampung's 36,000 square kilometres. "The government is facing a dilemma. The settlers have to be moved out," he said.

According to Soewardi, there had been thoughts of forcing out the settlers by destroying their coffee plantations — but this had been abandoned as impractical.

A sociologist has described the house burnings as "over-reacting" and "inhuman". Hotman Siahaan of the Surabaya-based University of Airlangga said that the settlers had successfully grown coffee there for so long that it was hard to conceive that they would damage the environment.

He dismissed the government's fears of erosion and landslides as baseless, especially considering the strength of the roots of a coffee bush. It was not common to hear of landslides in coffee plantation areas, he said.

Siahaan branded the evictions as a failure of Lampung administration to comprehend the people's problems — and asked whether burning down houses was the only solution.

"I have a suspicion that the

land will be used for other purposes once the settlers have gone," he said.

But a spokesman for the Home Affairs Ministry, Faisal Tamin, said the case should be viewed from a wider context: The government had resorted to the action after five years of persuasion.

"The government would do injustice to those who had already consented to leave the area by allowing the remainder to stay," he said.

Tamin said Lampung had a population of 6.4 million and a 5.8 per cent growth rate — twice that of other provinces. The government had to ensure that no damage occurred to its protected forest — the main source of water for the 7,000 hectares of rice paddy in the province.

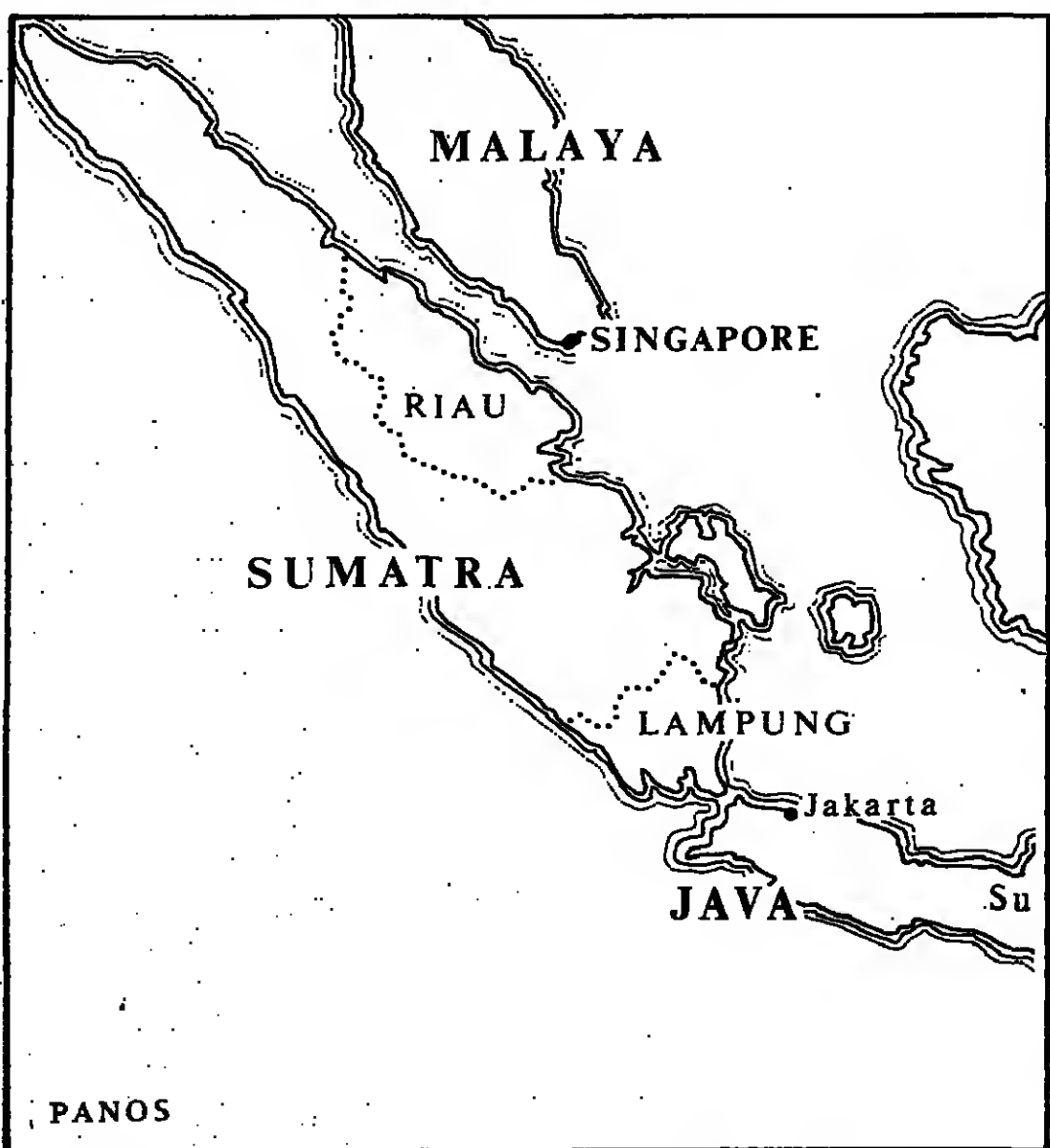
"Seen in this context it is more important to move the families out of the area rather than sacrificing the interests of hundreds of

thousands of other people whose lives depend on the rice field," Tamin said.

A member of the House of Representatives in Jakarta, Husein Thamrin, reminded the government that the settlers had come to the area long before the concept of sustainable development — and before the forest was declared a protected area.

Lampung governor, Peodjono Pranyoto, said the task of resettling the people from the protected forest is one of his toughest challenges.

Lack of funds was one of the obstacles to resettlement. It is estimated that \$100 million, or around \$500 a person, is needed to move all the settlers in Lampung. For this year, the government has provided \$1 million, and a government spokesman said that the resettlement programme will continue but no homes will be burnt down. — *Panos*.



# In search of a canal

Beset by war, the Nicaraguan government has announced plans to investigate building an alternative to the Panama Canal, following a route across its own country. If realised, the canal could mean an access of wealth and development for the country.

By Patricia Ardila

MANAGUA — Nicaragua has revived an old dream: to build a canal across the country to link the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and to serve as an alternative to the Panama Canal.

The Sandinista government is embarking on the scheme after eight years of war with the U.S.-supported contra rebels, which has pushed Nicaragua into the worst economic crisis in its history.

According to Finance Minister William Huper, Nicaraguans hope that the canal will be a source of wealth and development for this nation and for the Central American region as a whole.

Although no information has been provided so far on the size or cost of the proposed canal, a visit by Japanese experts and investors to begin discussions on the financial and technical viability of the project is expected soon.

A canal across Nicaragua could emerge as an alternative to the Panama canal whose capacity to accept increasingly large cargo ships is beginning to be insufficient.

The possibility of a canal across this Central American country was first considered in the 18th century. At that time, European commercial powers regarded Nicaragua as the most suitable site for an interoceanic canal, because of a natural connection between the San Juan River and Great Lake Nicaragua, which links the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans almost completely.

Because of the potential canal route, across 480 kilometres, Nicaragua became the subject of dispute between the United States and Great Britain in competition for economic control of

the raw materials and the markets of Latin America. For the United States this issue was crucial since it did not possess, as Britain did, a colonial empire to support its industrial development.

So crucial, that in 1903 the United States "took" Panama — according to the famous declaration issued then by President Theodore Roosevelt — in preparing the ground to obtain control of a route through Central America.

Panama, which was then a province of Colombia, emerged as the site for building the interoceanic canal. The rights to the canal were granted to the United States in perpetuity by Tomas Herrera, president of the newly created republic. That has since been overruled by a treaty ending U.S. control by the end of the century.

Second alternative  
Panama was originally chosen only as a second alternative to Nicaragua, mainly because at that time Nicaragua was ruled by Jose Santos Zelaya, a liberal dictator with no sympathy for the "colossus of the north" and who refused to grant the United States canal-building rights.

While construction of the Panama Canal was in progress, Zelaya, who considered a canal across Nicaragua vital for the country's economic development, decided to seek financial and technical support from either Japan or Germany.

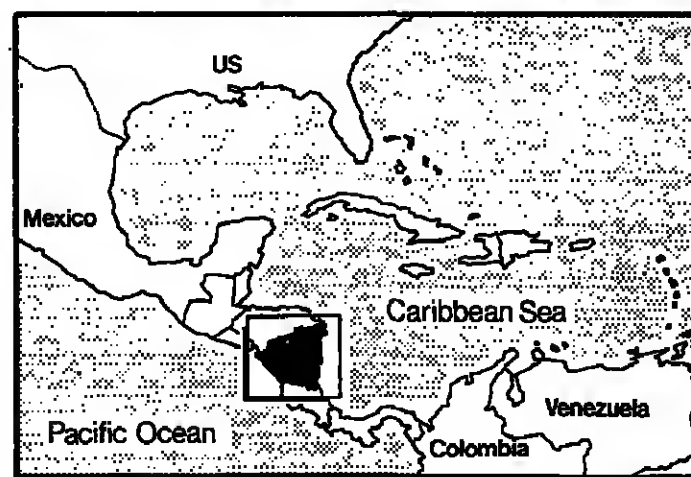
That meant that he was about to admit one of these countries into what the United States viewed as its hemisphere. In 1909 a U.S.-backed internal rebellion precipitated Zelaya's fall from power.

From then on, Nicaragua was governed by a series of U.S.-approved rulers. One of them, Adolfo Diaz, was so grateful for

U.S. support that he entered into a treaty intended to settle once and for all any possible problems arising from the potential canal route.

already completed, the treaty in practice ensured that no other country could obtain the rights to build a canal in Nicaragua.

Now 75 years later, another Nicaraguan government with no sympathy for the "colossus of the north" is attempting again to enlist Japanese money and expertise to build the canal that has been considered by several generations of Nicaraguans as their waterway to development — *Panos*.



## On Jordan Television Channel Two this week:

On Tuesday night at 9:10 episode four of *The Tin Flute* will be shown. The Lakaz family still suffers from financial difficulties which forced them to vacate their house. Their crisis is aggravated by the return of their enlisted son who wants back the money he gave to his family.

On Wednesday night at 9:10 the documentary *Horizon* presents "Thinking," a programme which discusses the intelligence of human beings and weather computers have the same potential as the human mind.

On Friday night at 9:10 the last episode of the mini series *The One Game* will be shown. Nicholas finds out that his divorcee Janee is the only person that still loves him. He thus sets out to rescue her from the captivity of Megnus.

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# Soviet deficit 'reaches danger zone'

NEW YORK (R) — The Soviet budget deficit has "reached the danger zone" and will rise above the equivalent of \$160 billion in 1989, a key economic adviser to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said in an interview published Sunday.

Abel Aganbegyan, head of the economic section of the USSR Academy of Sciences, was quoted in an interview with the U.S. magazine Newsweek as saying the Soviet economy had difficulties in all directions, "but the most critical is the deficit."

"It has grown sharply and reached the danger zone," he said, adding that it would exceed 100 billion roubles (\$160 billion at the official exchange rate) in 1989, approximately the same level as the U.S. budget deficit.

Aganbegyan called for capitalistic measures such as progressive income taxes, more consumer goods, and the creation of a 'deluxe trade' to cut the Soviet deficit.

As near-term reforms, Aganbegyan told the magazine that salary increases should be controlled and income taxes should be changed from the current 13 per cent for all to a progressive income tax with a top rate of 30 per cent.

But it was "more important," he said, to increase supply.

"We can expand housing construction by reducing industrial construction. And in my opinion, one third of the new housing should be sold... this could reduce the deficit by 20 billion

roubles" (\$32 billion). He said supplying the demand for cars and garage space would reduce the deficit by another 20 billion roubles, and increasing state production of video, audio and computer equipment "possibly through joint ventures with foreign firms," could reduce it by 15 billion (\$24 billion).

"Doubling imports of consumer goods would mean another 10 billion," (\$16 billion) the Soviet economist told Newsweek.

Aganbegyan said food subsidies should be reduced, and he added: "Prices on meat, dairy products and bread may have to double" in order to make agricultural products profitable.

To increase the incentive to earn money, the Soviet economist made a clearly uncommunist suggestion — the creation of a deluxe trade.

"In my opinion, we should also create a deluxe trade, so that prices can be different in different shops, with higher prices for better goods and services. This is very important for increasing material incentive," he said.

Concluding the Newsweek interview, Aganbegyan said he felt the economic reforms should be part of a long-term strategy and added that "such measures are

now being taken."

## Market analysis

Another two leading Soviet economists said that shortages of consumer goods in the Soviet Union have become dire and Moscow must look to the West for new credits if it is to check a rapid slide in living standards.

The warnings by the economists, writing in two different publications, reflect concern that chronic shortages of food and basic goods threaten confidence in Gorbachev's "perestroika" reform programme.

"The worsening of the situation on the consumer market was such last year that we cannot hold out for much longer," Otto Latsis wrote in the weekly Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta.

"Another year like that and the market could collapse. We could find ourselves in a situation like that of Poland in 1981-83 — with empty shelves and trade that has virtually ceased to exist," he added.

"We must finally admit that our country's economy is in a sad state," wrote A. Orlov in the monthly Chelovek i Zakon. "There is nothing shameful about seeking help from richer countries."

Citing figures from Moscow's Institute for the United States and Canada, Orlov said the Soviet Union now ranked between 45th and 50th in the world in terms of a "basket" of consumer goods.

Consumption of meat, for example, was nearly half that of the

United States, West Germany and France.

On his trips outside Moscow, Gorbachev has frequently been tackled by crowds angered by a lack of improvement in the quality of their daily lives since he came to power nearly four years ago.

The Soviet leader has made farm reform one of his top priorities and the issue, which has created a rift in the ruling Politburo, is to be debated at a major Communist Party meeting this month.

Both economists supported increased Western credits to buy consumer goods. The subject has been hotly debated in recent weeks, with some economists saying the country cannot afford to increase its debt and should import capital equipment.

"Our prejudices towards credits to buy consumer goods hinder considerably our attempts to curb shortages... and our foreign debt is still within a safe framework," Latsis wrote, citing Western estimates putting the debt figure at between \$20 and \$30 billion.

"Within this framework an extra \$1 or \$2 billion is not a terrible thing," he noted.

Increasing imports, he said, would also spur Soviet producers to improve the quality of their own goods. But he denounced increased imports of grain as irrational.

The weekly Moscow News last week published figures showing that the Soviet Union had im-



Abel Aganbegyan

ported 184.8 million tonnes of grain from 1984 to 1988 and denouncing queues and empty shops as "our common shame."

Orlov cited meat production, saying that 850,000 tonnes of meat were imported annually to compensate for up to one million tonnes lost — mostly through poor storage or inadequate transport.

Economists have also pointed

to improper use of imported and domestically produced equipment — never installed or out of use, sometimes rusting in the open air.

The Communist Party newspaper Pravda Sunday printed figures showing that a total of 14 billion roubles (\$23.8 billion) worth of equipment was lying idle in the country, nearly one-third of it imported.

## Algeria to spend over \$150m on job creation

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria will spend more than \$150 million this year on a crash programme to ease unemployment which helped to touch off violent protests against economic hardship last October.

The official news agency APS said Monday the employment situation, which had "deteriorated in a remarkable fashion" in the last few years, was the government's first priority.

A special government commission met at the weekend to adopt a series of 52 measures to promote job creation. The agency said the programme would get a state subsidy of one billion dinars (\$147 million) plus revenue from motor vehicle tax.

APS gave no figure for total unemployment but last month a

senior planning ministry official told a conference on the state of the economy that the jobless rate had risen from 22 to 25 per cent of the work force in the last two years.

The official, Mohammad Salah Benkhalil, said 110,000 new job-seekers were coming on the market each year. He said the government hoped to create 90,000 new jobs in 1989 by investing 107 billion dinars (\$15.3 billion) in economic development projects.

An across-the-board pay hike of up to 33 per cent for nearly two million wage-earners came into force at the beginning of the year, compensating for the rising cost of living which was also a major grievance voiced during the October riots.

## World Bank to lend Nigeria \$1 billion

LAGOS (R) — Nigeria will receive World Bank loans worth about \$1 billion a year after agreeing to reschedule part of its \$30 billion foreign debt, a World Bank official said Sunday.

Tariq Husain, the World Bank's Lagos representative, told Reuters the bank, which has lent Nigeria about \$4 billion over the past 30 years, now intended providing loans worth around \$1 billion a year.

He said \$600 million in loans would be paid to Nigeria for special projects, including help to develop small and medium-sized businesses.

Encouraging small businesses, especially in agriculture and manufacturing based on local raw materials, is part of the government's policy to break away from dependence on imports paid for by oil sales.

A tough economic restructuring programme has won approval from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and helped soften the attitude of Nigeria's foreign creditors.

But the programme has meant a devaluation of the local naira currency and hardship for most Nigerians struggling to cope with the soaring inflation. It has also hit businesses short of foreign exchange for essential imports.

Officials from Nigeria and the World Bank signed an agreement in Washington last week for a loan of \$85 million towards agricultural and rural development projects.

These projects are part of the World Bank's programme for

Nigeria for 1989 to 1991 to help fund development in areas such as technical education, water, power and health.

The first part of a \$500 million balance of payments support loan has already been paid, with the rest due later in the year.

## Privatisation

Meanwhile, Nigeria, trying to help its debt-burdened economy by stimulating private enterprise, is preparing three more companies for full or partial privatisation.

State radio reported Saturday government shares in National Oil and Chemical Company Ltd., Aba Textile Mills and United Nigeria Insurance Co. Ltd., should be ready to go on sale to the public between April and June.

National Oil, now 60 per cent government-owned, is set for partial privatisation. The other two companies will be fully privatised.

The privatisation exercise, which mirrors sales of state enterprises in Britain and other countries, began in January with the sale of 6.9 million government-held shares in Flour Mills of Nigeria Ltd.

African Petroleum Ltd. stock is currently on sale, with the government reducing its holding to 40 per cent from 60 per cent by selling off 17.28 billion shares.

The privatisation programme is set to involve 92 enterprises, 67 of them slated for a total sell-off.

## African ministers look for economic salvation

BLANTYRE (R) — African finance ministers gathered in Malawi Monday to seek a kinder cure for their ailing economies than the one being prescribed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank.

The meeting takes place against a background of rioting in Venezuela last week which Latin American officials linked to reforms sought by the IMF and the World Bank in return for aid.

Venezuela said an estimated 247 people died and up to 2,000 were injured in the unrest which followed austerity measures.

The executive secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Adebayo Adedeji, was to open the Blantyre meeting late Monday.

Ministers, central bank and other monetary officials from most Organisation of African Unity members were then due to meet Tuesday for a debate which IMF and World Bank officials have been invited to attend as observers.

The Venezuelan disturbances were expected to reinforce African arguments that thrift policies encouraged by the IMF and World Bank incurred too high a social and political cost.

"The social fabric of African societies has been torn asunder," said Biogun Mutharika of the Addis Ababa-based U.N. commission which organised the conference.

"The poor, both in urban and rural areas, are becoming poorer and less able to feed themselves," Mutharika, the conference direc-

tor, said last Tuesday as African finance experts prepared the ground for this week's closed-door meeting.

IMF and World Bank reforms often include hefty currency devaluations, budget and subsidy cuts, and state sector layoffs. About 30 African countries have pledged to carry out such reforms, under what are called structural adjustment programmes.

But some Africans, and others, argue that these have served to aggravate poverty, hunger, illness and infant mortality in the world's poorest continent.

"Main areas of concern relate to effects of orthodox structural adjustment programmes on social conditions of the people — their lack of the human dimension," a spokesman for Adedeji told Reuters in February.

"Further, at political level, the way programmes are designed outside African countries undermines national sovereignty," the spokesman, Jegghan Senghor, added.

Mali Foreign Minister Modibo Keita — whose president is current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity — warned six months ago of how difficult it was for African countries to persist with traditional IMF and World Bank reforms in the absence of what he called meaningful economic growth.

"A new, dangerous development is emerging among African countries: Adjustment fatigue," he declared.

## Perez vows to maintain austerity in Venezuela

CARACAS (R) — Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez says he will persevere with his economic austerity programme despite rioting last week over price increases.

"There's no question of changing tack. I will continue the path we have started on," Perez said in a television interview Sunday night.

Opposition leaders have urged the government to change its economic programme which was unveiled last month in order to win International Monetary Fund

(IMF) loans of \$4.75 billion over the next three years to offset a plunge in oil income.

Huge price increases in petrol and bus fares last week sparked nationwide rioting and looting.

"Perez Sunday ruled out wage rises to offset the effects of the austerity measures."

"A wage increase would mean absolutely nothing. It would merely exacerbate the inflationary process," he said.

The government expects the annual rate of inflation to reach about 60 per cent in 1989.

## Eastern Airlines struggles to keep flying

MIAMI (R) — Eastern Airlines, virtually grounded by a strike that has stranded thousands of passengers and threatened its financial survival, struggled Monday to muster enough pilots to keep a skeleton fleet flying.

As travellers bedded down in airport lobbies, millions of commuters in major U.S. cities were granted a reprieve from rush-hour chaos when striking Eastern mechanics said they would postpone holding disruptive secondary pickets at disruptive stations.

Federal judges in New York and Philadelphia issued restraining orders against sympathy strikes.

Eastern, primarily a domestic U.S. carrier, is also the largest

American airline serving Latin America. Services to the region have been affected.

The International Association of Machinists (IAM) said Monday it was now setting its sights on Continental Airlines, Eastern's non-union sister carrier under the Texas Air Corp. umbrella, and would soon set up picket lines aimed at paralysing its operations.

"... We will bring the transportation network of this country to its knees," said Wally Haber, general chairman of IAM District 100, representing 8,500 striking mechanics and baggage handlers.

The mechanics went on strike Saturday morning after union

negotiators turned down a contract proposal demanding \$125 million in wage concessions. Pilots and flight attendants walked off their job in sympathy strikes.

Eastern's problems could spread to other major U.S. airlines by Tuesday. The Air Line Pilots Association has called on its 41,000 members to begin a work to rule slowdown believed capable of clogging the country's air traffic system.

On Sunday, striking mechanics, backed by pilots and flight attendants, forced the nation's seventh largest airline to cancel all but 90 flights, nine per cent of its usual 1,000 daily flights.

The airline had promised to

take special measures to maintain service to Latin America but only a handful of flights headed south from Miami Saturday.

Texas Air Chairman Frank Lorenzo, who acquired Eastern in 1986 and sharply curtailed its operations, has emerged as the prime target of strikers' bitterness.

"Lorenzo is scum," read a sign on the picket line at Atlanta's Hartsfield International Airport.

Airline analysts said a protracted strike could lead to a bankruptcy filing or a complete dismantling of financially strapped Eastern, founded 60 years ago and once headed by World War I flying ace Eddie Rickenbacker.

## Vietnam aims at accelerating reforms

HANOI (R) — Vietnamese leader Nguyen Van Linh has strengthened his position with a cabinet reshuffle aimed at speeding up the reforms essential for revitalising the country's economy, Vietnamese officials said Monday.

The appointment of Phan Van Khai as minister in charge of state planning was seen by the officials as a clear signal that Linh wanted to speed the reforms.

Khai, the mayor of Ho Chi Minh City, is a close associate of Linh and the vice-chairman of the council of ministers.

All are regarded as heading the reform movement, intent on liberalising economic conditions in Vietnam to attract foreign investment.

Khai replaced Dau Ngoc Xuan who remains a member of the cabinet but moves to become vice-chairman of a special committee set up to oversee foreign investment.

Vo Dong Giang, a former leader of the National Liberation Front during the Vietnam war, was named as head of the committee.

But Tin, a veteran soldier who has been deputy editor of the Nhan Dan party daily newspaper for the past five years, told Reuters Monday: "People in government hope the reforms will go faster. But the legacy of the past is so deep that we cannot go faster (at the moment). You have to change the cadres and the way of thinking in economic management."

He said there had been rumours that Linh would step down as party chief in the near future, but said: "He will stay until the seventh party congress in 1990, when he will retire."

Tin also said a key meeting of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee would take

place March 26 and last for about a week.

"It will assess two years of reform, and assess the economic situation," he said. "The main lack is in the fight against inflation, where we have not reached our main target. It is too high and it is a very big problem."

Tin and other Vietnamese officials interviewed over the past few days have been at pains to stress that the country's leadership is united in the desire for reform and which direction it should take.

However, they have indicated that more conservative members of the cabinet, identified by Western diplomats as Interior Minister Mai Chi To and Defence Minister Le Duc Anh, felt the pace of the reforms should be much more cautious.

Western diplomatic sources said it was clear Linh and his fellow reformers, faced with a still stagnant economy, felt the time had come to speed up the pace by changing the ministers directly involved in implementing the reforms.

In December 1986 Vietnam announced the biggest shakeup in the country's leadership in four decades and coupled it with a

radical programme aimed at injecting life into the country's shattered economy.

A liberal law aimed at attracting foreign investment was unveiled, and a state policy of "mo cua," or openness, and "khoi phuc," or renewal, were announced.

Western diplomats said the moves to an open door policy were prompted by an inflation rate running at between 400 and 1,000 per cent a year, foreign debt repayments that could not be met of some \$120 million, high unemployment, and a thriving black market in the country's currency.

The official rate is 3,500 dong for a U.S. dollar but the black market rate on the streets is between 4,800 and 5,500 dong.

The plenary session of the Central Committee later this month will involve some 200 members, and will lay down a new policy incorporating the present reforms but vastly speeding up their implementation, Western diplomats said.

"They have to go faster, and they have to show some progress in tackling inflation and the exchange rate," said one Western diplomat.

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AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES					
Monday, March 6, 1989 Central Bank official rates					
	Buy	Sell		Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	538.0	542.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	419.7	424.9
Pound Sterling	929.1	940.4	Dutch guilder	258.7	261.3
Deutschemark	292.0	295.0	Swedish crown	85.1	85.9
Swiss franc	341.3	344.8	Italian lira (for 100)	39.7	40.1
French franc	85.9	86.8	Belgian franc (for 10)	139.3	140.6

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES			
Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.			
One Sterling	1.728595	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.191525	Canadian dollar	
	1.844050	Deutschemark	
	2.081020	Dutch guilders	
	1.577080	Swiss francs	
	36.6569	French francs	
	6.26502700	French francs	
	1357/1358	Italian lire	
	128.3545	Japanese yen	
	6.32753325	Swedish crowns	
	6.730050	Norwegian crowns	
	7.17501800	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	388.00/388.50	U.S. dollars	

**WORLD STOCK MARKETS**  
SYDNEY — The market consolidated earlier gains amid investor caution and listless trading. The All Ordinaries index edged up 3.6 points to close at 1,512.6.  
TOKYO — Share prices ended lower in scant turnover. Most participants took profits or stayed put amid worries about political issues and interest rates. The Nikkei index fell 123.24 points, or 0.39 per cent, to close at 31,876.86.  
HONG KONG — Share traders took back the Hang Seng index's initial 36-point gain and it closed 2.37 points up at 3,058.95.  
SINGAPORE — Share prices closed generally lower on profit-taking and lack of follow-through buying in fairly moderate trading. The Straits Times industrial index fell 3.48 to 1,114.94.  
BOMBAY — Market closed for holiday.  
FRANKFURT — Shares ended a lively session broadly higher amid revived domestic demand. Traders were relieved at last week's Bundesbank decision to leave leading interest rates unchanged. The DAX index rose 11.84 to 1,337.66.  
ZURICH — Prices closed higher across the board in active trading as the market followed sharp gains in shares of Credit Suisse. The all-share index rose 15.3 to 985.5.  
PARIS — Shares were steady in quiet midday trading. Volume was mostly thin but underlying sentiment remained positive.  
LONDON — Shares were below their highs of the day in sluggish afternoon business, although a firm showing on Wall Street was helping to support prices. At 1538 GMT the FTSE 100 index was up 11.6 to 2,070.8.  
NEW YORK — General interest aroused by the planned Time-Warner merger, as well as higher bonds on a firm dollar, sparked early buying. But profit-taking later in the morning eroded moderate early gains. The Dow was up five at 2,279.







# Tibetans take revenge for police shootings

**LHASA (R) — Angry crowds of Tibetans ransacked Chinese stores and offices and attacked individual Chinese in Lhasa Monday, taking revenge for more than 100 casualties suffered in clashes with police the previous day.**

Several thousand Tibetans, including young children and old women, took control of the predominantly Tibetan quarter in Lhasa, erecting barricades, setting fire to Chinese-owned buildings and shouting pro-independence slogans.

Holding aloft a picture of the exiled Tibetan leader, the Dalai Lama, they surged back and forth through burning barricades and huge bonfires in the street.

More than 200 armed police skirted the area but by 4 p.m. (0800 GMT) they had not intervened.

China's official press said that at least 11 people were killed and more than 100 injured Sunday after police were forced to open fire on hundreds of Tibetan demonstrators who attacked government buildings and police vehicles and ransacked shops and restaurants.

On Monday afternoon this reporter saw one ethnic Chinese, a Muslim, thrown to the ground,

stoned and beaten. It was not clear if he survived.

A second Chinese Muslim was also caught and stoned but appeared to escape down a side street.

Nearby, a young maroon-robed Buddhist monk tried to stop a mob from attacking a Chinese store.

Inside two women could be heard wailing in terror. They apparently escaped through the back but their store was completely ransacked and everything burnt in the street.

The Tibetans have control of an area one square kilometre but residents said they feared that Chinese police were preparing for an attack Monday evening.

Outside the city, life was going on as normal.

Witnesses to Sunday's clashes said they were the worst ethnic violence in Tibet since a pro-independence demonstration erupted 18 months ago.

Foreign witnesses described

how waves of police armed with machine guns attacked the Tibetan quarter, strafing buildings and rooftops.

Tear gas was also fired. An accurate death toll is impossible to gauge. Foreigners and Tibetans spoke of well over 100 people shot by police, including a dozen killed.

Foreign tourists who witnessed the rioting denied official reports that the Tibetans were armed.

A crying Tibetan woman showed this reporter a pool of blood in her kitchen where she said an 18-year-old girl was shot dead through the eye when police stormed their courtyard.

Two other families also described how police entered their homes and shot people indiscriminately.

Peking has said repeatedly Tibet is an integral part of China. No foreign government supports Tibetan independence.

Sunday's riot erupted only days before the 30th anniversary Friday of an armed insurrection crushed by Chinese troops.

An American tourist from New Orleans said that about 4:15 Sunday afternoon, Chinese police were moving along the streets hugging the walls firing as they approached.



Residents of the shantytown of Petare in eastern Caracas, carry the body of a man killed in last week's bloody riots.

## Government regains control in Venezuela

**CARACAS (AP) —** The government declared it has regained control after the country's bloodiest riots in decades and ordered elementary schools to reopen Monday. It also gave a new, lower death toll.

A nighttime curfew remained in effect in the capital and the country was still under martial law, which allows soldiers to search houses without warrants and detain suspects indefinitely without charge.

Isolated gunfire was heard in the capital early Sunday, but

there have been no significant disturbances since Friday.

The rioting, which began Feb. 27, was sparked by increases in bus fares and other price increases mandated under an austerity plan demanded by foreign creditors.

In a nationwide television broadcast, an aide to President Carlos Andres Perez revised downward the government's tally of the number of dead and wounded from the rioting, which began Feb. 27.

He said 246 people were killed

— down from Perez's previous estimate of at least 300. Figueroa said 1,800 people were injured, compared to earlier reports of at least 2,000.

No explanation was given for the new figures, which were much lower than newspaper reports putting the death toll as high as 600 and the number of wounded at several thousand.

Two Caracas hospitals alone reported treating 2,300.

Figueroa said during Saturday night's broadcast that the government was starting to reopen

schools because unrest has "been controlled and the situation... has returned to complete normality."

He said classes would resume Monday for kindergarten through sixth grade and begin later in the week for older students.

It was unclear when universities would reopen. Universities have traditionally been centres of protest of government economic policies.

People filed into the Caracas central morgue Sunday trying to find missing relatives.

## China halts wave of migrants

**PEKING (R) —** China Monday ordered a halt to the movement of hundreds of thousands of peasants who have flooded into major cities over the past month in search of work.

The State Council, China's equivalent of a cabinet, said the mass exodus from the countryside had turned law and order efforts to chaos in the cities.

In an order published in newspapers it instructed local authorities to "persuade" the peasants to leave the cities and go home, but did not specify how this was to be achieved.

It also ordered local authorities to prevent more peasants leaving their homes and told railways and road transport companies to reduce services in the areas worst hit by the exodus.

"We must collect our strength to persuade and stop the workers, so that they do not blindly go outside their own areas," the

order said.

"We must persuade (those in the cities) to return to their own villages," it said.

Hordes of peasants have poured into Peking, prosperous Canton in South China's Guangdong province, and other cities since the Chinese New Year festival last month.

Chinese television has shown dramatic pictures of the workers roaming city streets or living in drab tents on spare land.

In Peking 230,000 people are arriving daily, 100,000 more than usual.

Guangdong, bordering the British colony of Hong Kong, has been invaded by a work-hungry army of 2.5 million people and provincial authorities have warned the peasants may have to be sent home by force.

The China Daily said Saturday that since an austerity programme started in September to bring

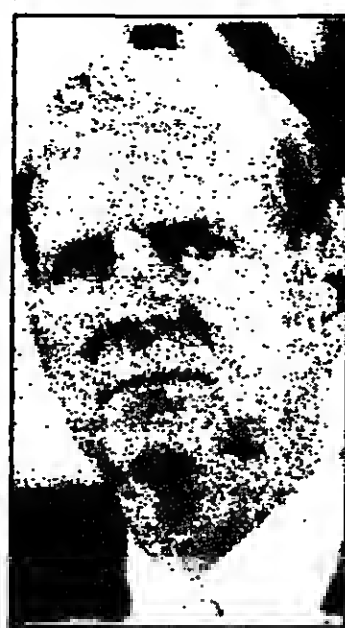
an overheated economy under control, 81,000 rural firms had gone bankrupt and a further 30,000 had gone deeply into the red and laid off hundreds of thousands of workers.

It said many of them were unwilling to return to hard and poorly paid farm work after the higher incomes and easier jobs in rural factories.

Officials have warned that five to six million people in the construction industry also face redundancy this year because of the austerity measures.

China does not release unemployment figures but newspapers have spoken of 20 to 30 million jobless and a similar number of "surplus workers" — people with jobs that give them a salary but nothing to do.

The China Daily has reported that China has an estimated 100 million too many workers.



James Baker

## Baker urges Gorbachev to abandon Brezhnev doctrine

**VIENNA (R) —** U.S. Secretary of State James Baker Monday urged Moscow to renounce the "Brezhnev Doctrine" which the West says it has used to justify military intervention in communist countries.

Baker, in his first major speech to an international gathering, also said Washington was studying ways to speed up the removal of U.S. chemical weapons from West Germany before a 1992 deadline.

He told foreign ministers of 35 states gathered in Vienna for a ceremony to launch new talks on cutting conventional arms that Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's "realism" in pressing for new open-

ness and economic reform was encouraging.

In a largely conciliatory speech, he said Gorbachev's announcement that Moscow would withdraw 50,000 troops and 5,000 tanks from European frontlines was "a very good start."

But he said the spectre of Soviet military intervention, such as its 1968 drive into Czechoslovakia to crush a reform government, still hung over Eastern Europe.

"Those in the East should be free of the fear that armed Soviet intervention, justified by the Brezhnev Doctrine, would be used again to deny them choice," Baker said.

"I call today upon secretary Gorbachev to renounce this doctrine, beyond any shadow of a doubt. Let the new thinking sweep away this vestige from the era of stagnation."

The Soviet Union argues there never was a Brezhnev Doctrine, although it accepts that Moscow did exert heavy pressure on its East European allies in the past.

Western analysts say the doctrine which emerged under the late Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev actively intervened if the communist system if any of them was felt to be under threat.

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### Sri Lanka's new premier sworn in

**COLOMBO (R) —** Finance Minister Dingiri Banda Wijetunga was sworn in as Sri Lankan prime minister Monday by President Ranasinghe Premadasa, the president's office said. Announcing the appointment Friday, Premadasa said Wijetunga would hold the post of prime minister for one year in addition to the finance portfolio. He said he had appointed Wijetunga, 67, prime minister in preference to other aspirants to prevent a split in the party.

### 2 die in black unrest in S. Africa

**JOHANNESBURG (R) —** Two black South Africans were stabbed and killed by a gang at the weekend in Natal province, police said Monday in their daily report on political violence. The report gave no details of the incident in Sweetwaters Township, but the killings appeared to be the latest in a power struggle between black groups in Natal which has claimed an estimated 1,000 lives during the past two years. In Johannesburg, a limpet mine exploded at an electrical sub-station Sunday night, cutting power for two hours to the Mayfair district. No-one was injured, police said. Mayfair is one of Johannesburg's so-called "grey areas" where police turn a blind eye to the influx of non-whites, although the suburb is officially reserved for whites.

### False liquor kills 109 in India

**NEW DELHI (AP) —** At least 109 people, most of them poor labourers, died after drinking homemade liquor in the western city of Baroda, United News of India reported Monday. The news agency said 40 of 100 people hospitalised after drinking the illicit brew Saturday were in serious condition. Press Trust of India, however, said 251 were hospitalised and at least 100 were in critical condition. Many victims were likely to go blind if they live, doctors treating the patients said, according to UNI. PTI quoted doctors as saying the death toll could have been lower if the victims had sought treatment earlier. The news agency said many of the victims became dizzy, complained of nausea and stomach aches before falling unconscious. The news agencies said the deaths were the worst known case of liquor poisoning in the city, a major industrial centre in Gujarat state 900 kilometres southwest of New Delhi. Gujarat is the only Indian state where sale of alcohol is banned.

### Hundreds held in Philippine smoking ban

**MANILA (R) —** Startled bus passengers, cafe customers and hospital visitors were hauled off to police stations at the start of a new crackdown on smoking in public. "Our jails are so packed we don't know where to put people," Corporal Bonifacio Draculan said. Quezon City officials said Monday 214 smokers were arrested in the first 24 hours of an anti-smoking ban in the Manila suburb of two million people. The local law bans smoking in public places in Quezon and punishes offenders with 10 days in jail or fines of up to 200 pesos (\$9.50). Government offices, schools, hospitals, bars, cinemas, discos, restaurants and shopping centres, must designate special areas for smokers.

### 50 guerrillas, 8 Indians killed in Sri Lanka

**COLOMBO (AP) —** Indian troops killed 50 Tamil guerrillas during a raid of their camp in northeastern Sri Lanka, a senior Indian diplomat said Sunday. Eight troops were killed, including an army colonel. The diplomat, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the guerrillas were killed when the Indians raided the rebels' jungle hideouts in the area of Mullaitivu, 195 kilometres north east of Colombo.

## Recruit scandal hits Takeshita again

**TOKYO (R) —** Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita was dealt another political blow Monday when the former head of the giant Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT) was arrested on suspicion of taking bribes.

The Tokyo District Prosecutor's Office said that Hisashi Shinto and a former aide were arrested in connection with the Recruit share scandal.

The widening scandal has rocked the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and led to opposition calls for Takeshita's resignation.

"The prosecutors have now come very close to the centre of the Recruit scandal," Tsuruo Yamaguchi, secretary-general of the Japan Socialist Party, told reporters.

The 78-year-old Shinto, one of Japan's top businessmen, stepped down as chairman of the NTT telecommunications company late last year amid reports he had received huge profits from the sale of cut-rate shares in a Recruit subsidiary in 1986.

In return, prosecutors allege, Shinto gave favourable treatment to Recruit, including selling it two supercomputers NTT had purchased from a U.S. firm.

More than 100 public figures have been implicated in the scandal, including former secretaries to Takeshita and former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Three cabinet ministers and two senior civil servants have been forced to resign in connection with the affair in which Recruit sought to gain influence and favours by distributing shares and lavish gifts.

Takeshita's popularity has plummeted as the scandal has widened, prompting speculation he may step down as prime minister before his two-year term expires in November.

Opinion polls show that less than one in five Japanese approve of the government, a post-war low.

Opposition parties last week agreed to join forces to demand that Nakasone testify in parliament on his alleged role in the scandal.

## Anti-North evidence mounts

**WASHINGTON (AP) —** A retired U.S. air force officer says Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North enlisted him to help build an airstrip for secret military supply missions to the Nicaraguan Contras while Congress had banned U.S. aid to the rebels.

Richard Gadd was due to resume his testimony Monday in North's trial on charges of lying to Congress and the attorney general about attempts by the administration of former President Ronald Reagan to circumvent the aid ban.

Gadd testified Thursday that North enlisted him to help build a secret airstrip in Costa Rica to support a "southern front" for the Contras in their guerrilla war against the Nicaraguan government.

Gadd described how he was summoned on a Sunday by North co-defendant Richard Secord to a meeting with the White House aide, who pointed on a map to a remote section of the country's west coast.

"Secord and North asked if I could build" the airstrip, recalled Gadd.

One of the government's key witnesses against North, former National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane, was sentenced Friday for his role in the Iran-contras affair and is to be called later by the prosecution.

The problem of handling classified material continues to be a problem at the trial. U.S. District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell held a hearing Friday to review what to do when the government tries to

release material that is already in the public domain.

The latest fight erupted when North's lawyers discovered that memos the government had censored for use in court had been made public in their entirety eight months earlier in a separate legal case.

One count in the indictment accuses North of obstructing Congress by telling the panel that he hadn't given military advice to the Contras and had no knowledge of any specific military action conducted by them.

Brendan Sullivan, one of North's lawyers, challenged whether North's contacts with the committee were "official," since no transcripts were kept and no oath administered.

## Mercouri backs Papandreou

**ATHENS (R) —** Film star-turned politician Melina Mercouri is backing Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou to win a third term of office in elections this summer despite the fact that his image is at an all-time low.

In an interview with the Greek daily Eleftherotipia Sunday, Mercouri also appealed to Papandreou's American wife to agree to end their marriage, which has been under close public scrutiny since the prime minister left her for a younger woman.

Mercouri, who serves as culture minister in Papandreou's government and controls public relations for the Pasok Party, said her boss still had the charisma to retain power for the ruling socialists in next June's elections.

Pasok, which swept to power in 1981, has been battered in recent months by a series of economic scandals and the prime minister's affair with a former air-stewardess half his age.

The prime minister, 70, has been criticised on a daily basis by the media for allegedly being subject to the wishes of his girlfriend, 34-year-old Dimitra Liani. The press says the relationship is affecting government policy.

Mercouri said: "I am terribly bothered about what has been written. The (Liani) matter is amusing and attractive and it has been abused."

Papandreou moved in with Liani after returning last October from heart surgery in London. They have been inseparable ever since and she accompanied him to

a European Community (EC) summit in December.

"Mrs. Liani stood very well at the prime minister's side in London," Mercouri said.

She said Papandreou's wife Margaret should grant the prime minister a long-standing divorce and respect his choices.

"When a man does not want you and makes it public at a very critical point of his life by choosing somebody else you should grant him a divorce. We must accept that we don't sign contracts for life... that we may lose."

Papandreou has caused open divisions in the government over the handling of a scandal at the privately-owned Bank of Crete involving over \$200 million in missing funds.

## 80 Sikhs freed under Gandhi plan

**NEW DELHI (R) —** India freed Monday 80 Sikh leaders held in a jail in connection with a violent Sikh separatist movement, a government spokesman said.

Gureharan Singh Tohra, head of a powerful committee managing Sikh temples in Punjab, was among those released under a plan announced by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to bring peace to the north Indian state.

Police sources in the Punjab capital Chandigarh said another 88 Sikhs would be released from Jodhpur jail, in neighbouring Rajasthan.

They said the two groups were expected to be flown to Amritsar, where Tohra has his headquarters in a complex housing Sikhdom's holiest shrine, the Golden Temple.

Tohra was arrested in 1987 under India's tough National Security Act during an upsurge of violence by Sikh militants fighting for an independent homeland in Punjab.

Violence sparked by the militants killed more than 2,500 last year and more than 320 so far this year.

Gandhi announced Friday a series of concessions to hardline Sikh politicians demanding greater political autonomy for their agriculturally-prosperous state.

## Beautiful but deadly Korean bomber on trial

**SEOUL (R) —** A beautiful North Korean agent who blew up a South Korean airliner goes on trial Tuesday amid security preparations exceptional even by Seoul's rigorous standards.

Kim Hyon-Hui, 27, publicly confessed in a tearful television broadcast last year to killing 115 people by planting bombs on the plane Nov. 29, 1987.

She will stand trial in a court-house sealed off by 1,500 police, court officials said Monday.

Electronic sensors will be set up at all entrances, windows in nearby buildings will be blacked out and scores of martial art experts will form a human barrier around the defendant.

The officials said attendance

at the trial would be limited to 10 representatives of the victims' relatives, 42 local and foreign journalists, and about 100 members of the public.

Kim, charged with murder, air piracy and other lesser offences, told interrogators she and a male companion blew up the Korean Air Lines Boeing 707 on the written orders of Kim Jong-Il, son and heir-designate of northern leader Kim Il-Sung.

The male agent died after swallowing cyanide capsules when the pair were arrested in Bahrain. Kim also took the capsules but survived to be extradited to Seoul.

Kim said North Korea had

hoped the bombing would discourage foreign countries from sending athletes to the 1988 Seoul Olympics. A record 160 countries, including most of Pyongyang's allies, took part in the games.

North Korea has denied any involvement in the bombing. Prosecution sources said Monday the court would be urged to sentence Kim to death.

Government officials, however, maintain she is also a victim, brainwashed and exploited by the North. They have hinted at an amnesty for her after the trial.

There is a precedent for such leniency. The sole North Korean survivor of a bloody 1968

commando raid on the presidential Blue House in Seoul renounced communism and was allowed to go free. He now lives quietly in South Korea.

Kim Hyon-Hui, known as Mayumi after the false name on the passport she used, says she had trained as an agent for seven years, learning languages, martial arts and sabotage techniques.

The former actress appeared on Seoul television last year and, sobbing, said she was deeply sorry for the disaster. Local newspapers at the time portrayed her as a "puppet" following North Korean government orders.

## COLUMN

### Spaniards draw longest comic strip

**SAN CUGAT DEL VALLES, Spain (R) —** More than 2,000 Spanish youths drew what they described as the world's longest comic strip Sunday. They used coloured chalk to depict the adventures of Ramon the tramp cat over three kilometres of a street in this northeastern town to mark the start of a comics festival.

### 'Heidi Chronicles' wins awards

**NEW YORK (AP) —** Wendy Wasserstein has won the Susan Smith Blackburn prize for "The Heidi Chronicles," her play about one woman's search for self-fulfilment from the 1960s to the present. The \$5,000 prize was awarded Monday to the playwright by actress Jessica Tandy. "The Heidi Chronicles," which opened off-Broadway in December to critical acclaim, is moving to a Broadway house next week. Wasserstein had established her reputation as a witty social commentator with her off-Broadway hit, "Isn't it romantic." Timberlake Wertenbaker, a British playwright, was awarded a \$1,000 runner-up prize for her play "Our Country's Good," set in 18th-century Australia. The prize was established in 1978 to honour Susan Blackburn, the American actress and author who died in 1977.

### Pepsi bursts bubble over Madonna

**NEW YORK (R) —** A scantily dressed Madonna has upset her latest employer, Pepsi Cola, by appearing in a sexy video featuring religious imagery. The Pepsi bubble burst when company executives saw the Italian-American chanteuse dancing with a gospel choir, kissing the naked feet of a statue in a church sanctuary and singing in a field of burning crosses — and pulled their own Madonna TV adverts from stations that showed the offending video. Pepsi had paid the rock idol a reported \$5 million to star in a two-minute TV commercial — featuring the same music as the video but showing a wholesome Madonna — which debuted worldwide last week.

The video, "Like a Prayer," has already caused an international controversy with a Catholic group in Italy threatening court proceedings for blasphemy if the broadcast went ahead there. Madonna's record company, Warner Brothers, said in a joint statement with Italian State Television Saturday that to avoid further controversy it would not be aired in Italy. The video shows a scantily-dressed Madonna caressing a priest and includes close-up shots of Madonna's hands bearing "stigmata" or wounds resembling those Jesus Christ received at the crucifixion.

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### \$10 million for a diamond

**SYDNEY (R) —** A Hong Kong diamond dealer has paid the highest price for a rough uncut diamond, the Australian-based operator of the mine said Friday. Bridge Oil Limited said in a statement that Chow Tai Fook had bought the 253.61-carat diamond in Antwerp, Belgium, Thursday for \$10.03 million. The company said it was told by members of the International Diamond Trade Tender was the most paid for such a gem. The diamond, found at the Aredor mine in the African republic of Guinea, weighs 51.2 grammes.

### Your money or another 10 years

**READING (AP) —** A judge gave a convicted drug smuggler this choice: handover nearly \$2.95 million or have another decade added to his 8.5-year jail sentence. Ronald French, 37, did not say in court whether he would pay up — the law gives him a year to come up with the cash — or serve the extra time. The seizure, ordered by Judge John Murchie, was the heaviest so far under Britain's New Drug Trafficking Act, which allows courts to confiscate the proceeds of illegal drug smuggling. The court convicted French in August of plotting to smuggle marijuana into Britain with the help of an Air France employee. His sentencing was postponed pending an inquiry into his assets. During a hearing on the assets, Murchie was told of French's various aliases, his 21 bank accounts in Switzerland and Spain and his companies or other interests in Luxembourg, Panama, Liberia and South Africa. The judge said that he assessed French's assets from drug smuggling at \$4.3 million, with \$2.95 million recoverable.